

5 ~~1142~~  
AC. 11424 (1)

~~Sparking~~

~~Miss Dawson~~

~~Miss Towell. A208~~

~~Miss McLeod. A228~~

**THE**

*Library.*

**HEALTH**

**OF**

**SLOUGH**



**1968**



# BOROUGH OF SLOUGH

January to May, 1968

## SERVICES COMMITTEE

*Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR E. LEWIS

*Vice-Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR A.J. BLOOM

## HEALTH AND PARKS SUB-COMMITTEE

*Chairman:*

\* COUNCILLOR A.J. BLOOM

*Vice-Chairman:*

\* COUNCILLOR H.J. NEWMAN

* ALDERMAN MRS. J.M.B. GIBSON	* COUNCILLOR A. SIMPSON
* COUNCILLOR E. LEWIS	COUNCILLOR L.S. WILLIS
COUNCILLOR M.J. SHEEHY	

\* indicates membership of Services Committee

May to December, 1968

## SERVICES COMMITTEE

*Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR E. LEWIS

*Vice-Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR H.J. NEWMAN

ALDERMAN MRS. J.M.B. GIBSON	COUNCILLOR G.A. PEARCE
ALDERMAN J. RIGBY	COUNCILLOR R. SEYMOUR
(Mayor) (ex officio)	(Deputy Mayor) (ex officio)
COUNCILLOR A.J. BLOOM	COUNCILLOR MRS. M.M. SHAW
COUNCILLOR F.L. HARRIS	COUNCILLOR A. SIMPSON
COUNCILLOR E. HOGAN	COUNCILLOR K. WRIGHT
COUNCILLOR A.B. PARRYMORE	

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
'HIGHFIELD',  
9, BATH ROAD,  
SLOUGH.

Telephone: SLOUGH 23881

**PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF**

**Medical Officer of Health:**

MACDONALD A. CHARRETT, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

**Deputy Medical Officer of Health:**

AUDREY MYANT, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

**Departmental Medical Officers:**

BARBARA V. GIBSON, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (resigned 19.3.68)

JEAN BARKER, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

ROBERTA EVANS, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., (appointed 4.3.68)

JUNE C. BUTCHER, M.B., Ch.B., (appointed 17.6.68)

**Chief Public Health Inspector:**

LESLIE A. STROUD, D.P.A., F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

**Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector:**

J. SAGAR, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

**Public Health Inspectors - Special Duties:**

B.C. UPTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (1,2,3)

(Smoke Control)

D.A. OWEN, (1,2,3)

(Food and Drugs and Housing Improvement Grants)

I.D. PRESTON, (1,2)

(Offices and Shops)

D.W. TOMLIN, (1,2)

(Housing - Multiple Occupation)

R.B.C. SMITH, (1,2) (from 3.12.68)

(Superintendent/Senior Meat Inspector, Municipal Abattoir)

**District Public Health Inspectors:**

P. BAILEY, (1,2)

A. FENN, M.A.P.H.I., (1,2,3)

R.B.C. SMITH, M.A.P.H.I., (1,2) (to 2.12.68)

A.G. WELCH, F.R.S.H., (1,2)

D.D.F. MARSH, (1,2) (6.5.68 to 15.12.68)

**Pupil Public Health Inspectors:**

J.F. MARSHALL

G.P. WEBSTER

**Technical Assistants (Smoke Control):**

J.W. DAVIES, A.R.S.H., M.R.P.A.

R.I. LLOYD

**Technical Assistant (Pest Control):**

F.C. QUINN

**Laboratory Technician/Mortuary Attendant:**

C.G. WOOD

**Administrative Assistants:**

R. BORRETT  
MRS. J.C. BAYLISS

**Home Safety Officer:**

R.P. JONES

**Administrative Assistant (Meals on Wheels):**

MISS K.E. FELSTEAD

**Clerical Staff - Medical Officer of Health's Section:**

MISS D.M. DRYE	MISS S. RAO
MRS. S. MARSH	MRS. L. CARRITT
MISS M.S. ARNETT	(resigned 7. 7.68)
MISS A. GREENOUGH	MRS. N.H. BATES
MRS. M.G. BENTLEY	(appointed 24.6.68)
MRS. K. BRAITHWAITE	MISS J.A. MAY
(resigned 31.7.68)	(appointed 25.11.68)
MRS. D. HALLETT	MRS. P. SMART
MRS. M.P. COOK	(appointed 4.11.68)
MISS E. KELLY	
(resigned 24.11.68)	

**Clerical Staff - Chief Public Health Inspector's Section:**

MISS M. REITH	MISS E.P. WILLIAMS
MISS K.C. McGRATH	MISS L. HOWE
(resigned 12.8.68)	(appointed 1.11.68)
MISS C.A. ALDER	MISS T.A. CHAMPION
(resigned 31.8.68)	(30.9.68-29.11.68)

**Area Welfare Officer:**

H.L.G. HEATH

**Deputy Area Welfare Officer:**

MISS B. WRIGHT  
(resigned 13.10.68)  
MR. P. WALKINGTON  
(appointed 16.12.68)

**Social Workers:**

MRS. L.V. RUTTERFORD	G.M. DAVIES
MRS. P.G. BATTERBY	T. HERON
MISS P.A. WEDGBURY	MISS S.L.W. BARBOUR
(resigned 30.7.68)	(appointed 12.8.68)
G.B. DENBY	MISS A. VALENTINE
MRS. M.J. HALLIDAY	(appointed 16.9.68)
A. JONES	MRS. L.M. WONG
MRS. F.M. MACHIN	(appointed 11.11.68)
MISS A. MARSDEN	MISS P.A. MELVILLE
S.B. FRANCIS	(Trainee)
(Trainee resigned 29.9.68)	(appointed 7.10.68)



**Social Workers for the Blind:**

MRS. R.R. BRUNNER

MISS E.L. JEPPE

(appointed 26.8.68)

**Trainee Social Worker for the Blind:**

MISS J.S. ROBERTS

**Home Help Organiser:**

MRS. E.A. GORMAN

**Assistant Home Help Organisers:**

MRS. E. FARNELL

MRS. E.M. WHITE

(appointed 1.10.68)

**Veterinary Surgeon:**

J.E. GARLAND, M.R.C.V.S.

**Public Analyst:**

ERIC VOELCKER, A.R.C.S., F.I.C.

**KEY TO QUALIFICATIONS**

1. Certificate of the Joint Board as Public Health Inspector.
2. Certificate of Royal Society of Health as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
3. Certificate of Royal Society of Health as Smoke Inspector.
4. Certificate of Royal Society of Health in Sanitary Science as applied to Building and Public Works.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
'HIGHFIELD',  
9, BATH ROAD,  
SLOUGH.

*To the Worshipful the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Slough.*

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The end of a decade of reports and the beginning of another - this series of reports for which I have been responsible is now out of its 'teens and into its twenties.

This report contains many matters of interest and I can only suggest to those who still feel interested when they come to the end of this letter that they should read on into the meat of the report, pick up the book from time to time and browse through the sections gleaning a picture, however incomplete it may be, of some of the Health and Welfare services available in this town. This book is still called 'The Health of Slough' in spite of the fact that the Borough Council has, by stages, now reached the point where 'Health' no longer figures in the titles of any of its Committees.

The fact that this report has no dramatic stories of epidemic disease to tell is a tribute to the standards reached by the community under the guidance of all those who strive to produce a better town to live in. The pursuit of health lies more in the prevention of illness and in the striving for improved housing, hygiene and the general environment through education than it does in the policing of a people whose ignorance prevents them from being able to help themselves towards a healthy and often happy life.

I have reported on previous occasions that there are strains on the community from the influx of people from elsewhere and the Chief Public Health Inspector's section of the report highlights the problems of multi-occupation of houses. That this has been proceeding apace is not surprising to us and need no longer surprise others - the Registrar-General has said that more than 5,000 extra people lived in this town in June 1968 than had lived here a year earlier. This I rather doubt but he has brought his views up to date with those of us who have been sure that there has been a steady and considerable increase over the past few years. The Council's decision to appoint an officer with a particular interest in multi-occupation has been fully justified and even if it is impossible to prevent this ill it does mean that the conditions under which people have to live are as tolerable as they possibly can be under the circumstances.

Readers will notice the emphasis laid upon food hygiene. This always has been of major interest to Public Health Inspectors but

the diverse feeding habits of newcomers from all parts of the world have brought their problems. The preparation and sale of packaged meals in various forms, to say nothing of deep freezing, all lead to the need for increased vigilance by the Health Department and in addition all officers must continually keep themselves up-to-date with techniques which seem to change with ever-increasing rapidity.

One of the outstanding events of 1968 was the opening of the new municipal abattoir by the Mayor on 7th October. Here is a modern building which will allow the killing of animals and the inspection of meat under more suitable conditions than would have ever been possible at the old premises.

There is a great temptation, in a town which looks reasonably clean, to have diminished interest in clean air. The Council has taken very much to heart the need for clean air and it is pleasing to report that over a period of eight years about half the town has been covered by Smoke Control Areas. The increasing use of electricity and gas favours, of course, the protagonists of clean air.

By the time this letter is being written and the report printed Mr. L.A. Stroud, who has been Chief Public Health Inspector of the town for many years, has retired. To him I send, on behalf of all his colleagues, best wishes for a long and happy retirement. To his successor, Mr. James Sagar, who was previously Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, I give a hearty welcome; I look forward to working with him in close harmony for a number of years. However, without all the rest of the staff our efforts would have little result and on the preceding pages will be found a list of those working from 9, Bath Road whether they belong to the Borough or County staffs; others working elsewhere in local government health services have not been listed. To all of them I extend my appreciation for the way in which they have carried out their various tasks during the year and express my belief that they will continue to serve just as well in the future.

No department can exist in a vacuum and I would like to thank you, Mr. Mayor and the members of your Council, particularly the Chairman and members of the Services Committee, for the way in which they have supported us.

I must end on a note of sadness. My first report, for 1949, chronicled the events during the last year of my predecessor, Dr. G.M. Hobbin. Dr. Hobbin went into general practice but soon returned to Public Health and was, until he died in August this year, my neighbour as Medical Officer of Health to the Urban and Rural Districts of Eton; of our many contacts over the years I shall retain a fond memory.

I remain, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

MACDONALD A. CHARRETT,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

OCTOBER 1969.



# ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1968

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area ... ..	6,202 acres
Population: Registrar General's Estimate for mid 1968 ... ..	92,070
Number of dwelling houses, including flats at 1st April, 1968 ... ..	25,465
Rateable value as at 1st April, 1968 ...	£7,693,601
Estimated Product of Penny Rate 1968/69	£31,300

### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1968

Live Births:	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	756	732	1,488
Illegitimate ... ..	73	75	148
Total	829	807	1,636

Crude Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	17.8
Corrected Birth Rate (allowing for sex and age of the population) ... .. (Comparability factor 0.94)	16.73
National Birth Rate ... ..	16.9
Ratio of local Birth Rate to National Rate	0.99:1
Illegitimate live births were 9.05% of total live births	

Still Births:	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	9	9	18
Illegitimate ... ..	3	4	7
Total	12	13	25

Total of live and still births ...	1,661
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	15.0
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	0.27
National Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births ... ..	14.0

### Peri-Natal Mortality: (Still Births and Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age)

	Males	Females	Total
Deaths ... ..	6	9	15
Still Births ... ..	12	13	25
Total	18	22	40

Peri-Natal Mortality (cont'd.):

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births -

SLOUGH	24.1
NATIONAL	25.0

Neo-Natal Mortality: (Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age)

Deaths:					Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	9	15
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Total					6	9	15

Rate for all infants under 4 weeks of age  
per 1,000 live births -

SLOUGH	9.1
NATIONAL	12.3

Infant Mortality: (Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age)

Deaths:					Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	14	11	25
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	-	-	-
Total					14	11	25

Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	15.3
National Rate per 1,000 live births			18.0
Ratio of Local Rate to National Rate			0.85:1

Maternal Deaths:

No. of women dying in, or as a consequence  
of pregnancy ... ..

NIL

Deaths:	Males	Females	Total
	409	334	743

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	8.1
Corrected Death Rate (allowing for sex and age of population) ... .. (Comparability factor 1.43)	11.58
National Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.9
Ratio of Local Death Rate to National Rate	0.97:1

Other Deaths:	Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1,000 Population
Cancer	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary T.B.	...	...	...	...
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	...	...	...	...

# I. VITAL STATISTICS

## BIRTHS

The total in the summary of statistics shows a small increase in the number of births but as the Registrar-General estimated an increase of more than 4,300 in the population of the town the birth rate per thousand of the population was lower than in 1967 and, in fact, showed a continuation of decrease in birth rate which has been apparent over the past three years. Comparison between columns 1 and 2 in the table below show that the local rate and national rate have followed the same trend.

In 1968 there was a total of 1,636 births with a slight preponderance of males - 829 males and 807 females.

Column 3 shows the ratio between the corrected local birth rate and the national birth rate. It has been my belief that the Registrar-General underestimated the town's population during the past few years and this belief has been heightened by the allocation of a considerable increased number of inhabitants in the town for 1968. Perhaps it is not surprising that I believe this new figure to be more nearly correct but it does mean that true comparison between local and national figures must be somewhat suspect particularly as the birth comparability figure remained the same.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Corrected Birth Rate, Slough (1)</i>	<i>Birth Rate England &amp; Wales (2)</i>	<i>Ratio Slough : England &amp; Wales (3)</i>
1959	15.74	16.5	0.95 : 1
1960	16.74	17.1	0.98 : 1
1961	17.62	17.4	1.01 : 1
1962	18.25	18.0	1.01 : 1
1963	18.91	18.2	1.04 : 1
1964	20.2	18.4	1.10 : 1
1965	18.4	18.1	1.02 : 1
1966	17.7	17.7	1.00 : 1
1967	17.5	17.2	1.02 : 1
1968	16.73	16.9	0.99 : 1

## ILLEGITIMACY

The number of illegitimate births fell slightly during 1965 and a total of 148 was recorded compared with 153 in 1967.

The table below shows the percentages of live births which have been illegitimate during the past 10 years.

1959	...	5.90
1960	...	5.68
1961	...	5.69
1962	...	7.73
1963	...	8.56
1964	...	7.99
1965	...	9.01
1966	....	9.38
1967	...	9.33
1968	...	9.05

## STILLBIRTHS

The number of stillbirths at 25, was far greater than in 1967. As the total number of births in 1968 was only slightly higher than in 1967, the stillbirth rate rose from 13.0 to 15.0 per thousand total births - slightly higher than the national rate.

1959	...	26.8
1960	...	12.5
1961	...	10.5
1962	...	16.8
1963	...	13.4
1964	...	11.9
1965	...	11.2
1966	...	12.3
1967	...	13.0
1968	...	15.0

Two points should be made about this table. Firstly, that although illegitimate pregnancies show up well in the infant mortality rate the same is not true of stillbirths. Secondly, to obtain an overall picture of community living and service standards the proportion of children dying in the first week of life should be taken together with stillbirths and this is done in the next paragraph.



## PERI-NATAL MORTALITY

In 1968, 15 children died in the first week of life and there were 25 stillbirths making the total of 40 deaths out of 1,661 live and stillbirths, or a peri-natal mortality rate of 24.1 per 1,000 total births.

From the table it will be seen that although there was a small decrease upon the previous year - 24.1 compared with 26.2 - there has really been very little change for the past nine years. The rate for Slough was just below that for the country as a whole.

1959	...	34.0
1960	...	28.3
1961	...	26.6
1962	...	24.4
1963	...	25.05
1964	...	24.9
1965	...	17.1
1966	...	22.7
1967	...	26.2
1968	...	24.1

The maternity liaison committee, consisting of general medical practitioners as well as medical and nursing staffs from local health authorities and hospitals, meets periodically to enquire into various aspects of the services available for mothers and young babies in the very early stages of life. The figures above are the sort which gave an extra challenge but with rates getting towards those which must be the lowest attainable there are no very obvious causes for the rise and, therefore, no obvious cures for them; constant vigilance, continuing devotion to duty and the provision, by the community, of good physical conditions under which deliveries and subsequent infant care can be effected, must all play their part in providing the best service possible.

## NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Neo-natal deaths are those which occur within four weeks of birth. This is usually very similar to the rate for the first week of life as most children surviving one week usually survive for at least a month. In 1968 this figure was exactly the same - of the 15 children who died in the first month of life none survived more than a week. This represents a neo-natal mortality rate of 9.1 per 1,000 live births.

## INFANT MORTALITY

The number of children dying during the first year of life showed a welcome drop from the experience of 1967. According to the Registrar General 25 babies - 14 males and 11 females died in 1968 compared with 36 in 1967. The infant mortality rate - deaths per 1,000 live births dropped from 22.2 to 15.3: the National infant mortality rate was 18.0.

As will be seen from the tables on the following pages, most of the deaths occurred during the first week of life but quite a number occurred between one and four months of age. There is a slight discrepancy between the local figures and those given by the Registrar General; whereas I am able to include those whose deaths actually occurred during the year, the Registrar General has to move on to more recent periods in order to satisfy the requirements of his machinery and this means some slight variations from year to year.

CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE													
CAUSES OF DEATH	UNDER 1 DAY	1 - 2 DAYS	3 - 5 DAYS	6 - 7 DAYS	TOTAL UNDER 1 WEEK	1 - 2 WEEKS	3 - 4 WEEKS	TOTAL UNDER 1 MONTH	1 - 3 MONTHS	4 - 6 MONTHS	7 - 9 MONTHS	10 - 12 MONTHS	TOTAL UNDER 1 YEAR
Intestinal Infectious Diseases 000 - 009	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
Neoplasms of Lymphatic and Haematopoietic tissue 200-209	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Acute Respiratory Infection 460-466	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	4
Pneumonia 480-486 Bronchitis Emphysema and Asthma 490-493	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Delivery 650-662	1	-	1	-	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	3
Congenital Abnormalities 740-759	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Maternal Ante- and Intrapartum Infection 763	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Difficult labour with malformation of foetus 766	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Condition of Placenta 770-772	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Birth Injury without mention of cause 772	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Haemolytic diseases of Newborn 774-775	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Anoxic and hypoxic condition not elsewhere classified 776	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Immaturity, Unqualified 777	3	1	-	-	4	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	4
TOTAL	9	5	1	-	15	-	-	15	7	1	-	-	23
WHERE DIED													
Home	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	-	-	4
Hospitals in this area	8	4	1	-	13	-	-	13	2	-	-	-	15
Hospitals away from this area	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	3
Elsewhere	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTAL	9	5	1	-	15	-	-	15	7	1	-	-	23

## Intestinal Infectious Diseases 000-009

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 1 month  | - Acute gastro-enteritis - Wexham<br>Park Hospital, Coroner's post-mortem (009-2)  |
| 2 months | - Toxaemia due to enteritis. Found<br>dead on arrival at King Edward VII<br>Hospital, Windsor - Coroner's<br>post-mortem (009-2) |

## Neoplasms of Lymphatic and Haematopoietic tissue 200-209

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| 1 month | - Reticulosis with renal failure a<br>contributory condition - Hospital<br>for Sick Children, St.Pancras (202-9) |
|---------|--|

## Acute Respiratory Infections (except Influenza) 460-466, Pneumonia 480-486, Bronchitis, Emphysema and Asthma 490-493

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 4 months | - Acute laryngo-tracheo-bronchitis -<br>Home, Coroner's post-mortem (466)                 |
| 3 months | - Virus Pneumonia - Home, Coroner's<br>post-mortem (480)                                  |
| 3 months | - Pneumonia with arthrogryphosis as<br>contributory cause - Wexham Park<br>Hospital (486) |
| 3 months | - Acute bronchitis - Home, Coroner's<br>post-mortem (490)                                 |

## Delivery 650-662

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Under 24 hours | - Asphyxia due to maternal eclampsia<br>due to breech delivery. Prematurity<br>was a contributory cause. Upton<br>Hospital (656) |
|----------------|--|

## Congenital Abnormalities 740-759

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 2 months       | - Sub-endocarditis fibroelastosis -<br>Home, Coroner's post-mortem (746-7)   |
| 3 days         | - Bronchopneumonia due to respiratory<br>distress syndrome due to hyaline<br>disease. Prematurity - 34 weeks as<br>a contributory factor - Upton<br>Hospital (748) |
| Under 24 hours | - Foetal abnormality - Canadian<br>Red Cross Hospital (758-9)  |



### Maternal Ante and Intrapartum Infection

- 1 day - Pneumonia due to intra-uterine infection associated with atelectasis and suprarenal haemorrhage - Upton Hospital (763-1)

### Difficult Labour with malformation of foetus 766

- 1 day - Intra-uterine asphyxia due to breech delivery - Canadian Red Cross Hospital (766-4)

### Condition of Placenta 770-772

- Under 24 hours - Prematurity associated with antepartum haemorrhage and placenta praevia - Upton Hospital (770)
- Under 1 day - Prematurity (26/52) due to small bleeds in early pregnancy resulting in several areas of infarction in the placenta. Canadian Red Cross Hospital (770-2)

### Birth Injury without mention of cause 772

- 1 day - Cerebral haemorrhage due to prematurity (31 weeks gestation) - Upton Hospital (772-0)

### Haemolytic disease of newborn 774-775

- Under 24 hours - Respiratory distress due to prematurity due to Rhesus incompatibility - Hammersmith Hospital (775-0)
- 1 day - Severe hydrops foetalis associated with bilateral pneumothorax and prematurity - Lewisham Hospital (775-9)

### Anoxic and hypoxic conditions not elsewhere classified 776

- Under 24 hours - Atelectasis due to prematurity - Upton Hospital (776-9)

Immaturity, unqualified 777

Under 24 hours	- Prematurity - Upton Hospital	(777)
Under 24 hours	- Prematurity - Canadian Red Cross Hospital	(777)
Under 24 hours	- Prematurity - Upton Hospital	(777)
1 day	- Prematurity - Upton Hospital	(777)

## DEATHS

The table below gives the death rates for Slough for the past decade and compares them with the country as a whole.

The total number of people dying in 1968 was 743 which was 17 less than in 1967 but while there was actually an increase in male deaths from 392 to 409 the female deaths decreased from 368 to 334. The comparability figure was raised from 1.41 to 1.43 which means that the Registrar-General concluded that the population of the town was just a shade younger compared with the country as a whole, than it had been in 1967.

The tabulation of deaths for 1968 is somewhat complicated. There has been a revision of the International Classification of Diseases and the Registrar-General has based the classification of deaths under List B - a list of 50 causes for tabulation of mortality under the International Classification of Diseases. The Registrar-General has, in addition, sub-divided some of the causes e.g. B19 (Neoplasms) and B46 (all other diseases) and this has made comparison with earlier years somewhat easier.

The following tables and notes will, I hope, be self explanatory.

DEATH RATE - SLOUGH			
<i>Year</i>	<i>Crude Death Rate</i>	<i>Corrected Death Rate</i>	<i>National Rate</i>
1959	9.1	12.4	11.6
1960	8.6	11.7	11.5
1961	7.9	11.1	12.0
1962	7.9	11.1	11.9
1963	8.9	12.6	12.2
1964	7.6	10.8	11.3
1965	7.6	10.8	11.5
1966	8.3	11.8	11.7
1967	8.7	12.3	11.2
1968	8.1	11.6	11.9

CAUSE OF DEATH	1967	1968
Heart Disease	246	217
Cancer	195	161
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	67	103
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	80	89
Accidents - all types	34	28
Other circulatory disease	27	21

The six main causes of death remained the same as in previous years but vascular lesions of the nervous system and pneumonia and bronchitis changed places.

CAUSES OF DEATH		Males	Females
B 4	Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	2	2
B 5	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	1
B 6	Other tuberculosis, including late effects	2	-
B18	All other infective and parasitic diseases	2	2
B19	Malignant neoplasms, including neoplasms of lymphatic and haematopoietic tissue	89	72
B20	Benign neoplasms and neoplasms of unspecified nature	2	2
B21	Diabetes mellitus	3	-
B23	Anaemias	1	2
B26	Chronic rheumatic heart disease	6	8
B27	Hypertensive disease	7	7
B28	Ischaemic heart disease	101	60
B29	Other forms of heart disease	14	28
B30	Cerebrovascular disease	35	54
B31	Influenza	1	1
B32	Pneumonia	31	20
B33	Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma	44	13
B34	Peptic ulcer	4	-
B36	Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	1
B37	Cirrhosis of liver	2	1
B38	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2
B39	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	
B42	Congenital anomalies	3	3
B43	Birth injury, difficult labour and other anoxic and hypoxic conditions	3	2
B44	Other causes of perinatal mortality	3	7
B45	Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	5
B46	All other diseases	23	28
BE47	Motor vehicle accidents	12	2
BE48	All other accidents	8	6
BE49	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	6	3
BE50	All other external causes	-	2
TOTAL		409	334

The numbers missing from the above table, for which no deaths occurred are as follows overleaf:-



- B 1 Cholera
- B 2 Typhoid fever
- B 3 Bacillary dysentery and amoebiasis
- B 7 Plague
- B 8 Diphtheria
- B 9 Whooping Cough
- B10 Streptococcal sore throat and scarlet fever
- B11 Meningococcal infection
- B12 Acute poliomyelitis
- B13 Smallpox
- B14 Measles
- B15 Typhus and other rickettsioses
- B16 Malaria
- B17 Syphilis and its sequelae
- B22 Avitaminoses and other nutritional deficiency
- B24 Meningitis
- B25 Active rheumatic fever
- B35 Appendicitis
- B40 Abortion
- B41 Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium. Delivery without mention of complication.

The next table shows the Causes of Death in 1967 and gives a comparison, where possible, with those occurring in 1968. The numbers in brackets refer to the new classification already shown above.

CAUSES OF DEATH						1967		1968	
						M	F	M	F
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	(B. 5)		3	-	2	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	(B. 6)		-	1	2	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	(B. 17)		3	1	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	(B. 8)		-	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	(B. 9)		-	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infection	...	...	(B. 11)		-	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	(B. 12)		-	-	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	(B. 14)		-	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...			-	1		
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	(B. 19(1))			10	6	10	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	(B. 19(2))				49	7	35	8
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	(B. 19(3))			-	20	-	15
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	(B. 19(4))				5		4
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	(B. 19(6))			44	50	42	40
15.	Leukaemia and aleukaemia	...	(B. 19(5))			2	2	2	-
16.	Diabetes	...	(B. 21)			3	6	3	-
17.	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	...	(B. 30)			30	50	35	54
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	(B. 28)			99	75	101	60
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...				3	7		
20.	Other heart disease	...				27	35		
21.	Other circulatory disease	...				12	15		
22.	Influenza	...	(B. 31)			-	-	1	1
23.	Pneumonia	...	(B. 32)			23	15	31	20
24.	Bronchitis	...	(B. 33(1))			17	12	42	10
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system	...				1	3		
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	(B. 34)			3	2	4	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea					1	2		
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	(B. 38)			2	3	1	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	(B. 39)			4		1	
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...					1		
31.	Congenital malformations	...	(B. 42)			1	3	3	3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined disease					26	33		
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	(BE. 47)			17	6	12	2
34.	All other accidents	...	(BE. 48)			8	3	8	6
35.	Suicide	...	(BE. 49)			3	4	6	3
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...				1			
ALL CAUSES						392	368	341	234

Finally, shown below are the sub-classifications given by the Registrar-General and these will subdivide those international causes which may have particular interest in this country.

		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
B19(1)	Malignant neoplasm - stomach	10	5
B19(2)	Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	35	8
B19(3)	Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	15
B19(4)	Malignant neoplasm - uterus		4
B19(5)	Leukaemia	2	-
B19(6)	Other malignant neoplasms, etc.	42	40
B33(1)	Bronchitis and emphysema	42	10
B33(2)	Asthma	2	3
B46(1)	Other endocrine etc. diseases	-	2
B46(3)	Mental disorders	1	-
B46(4)	Other diseases of nervous system etc.	2	4
B46(5)	Other diseases of circulatory system	8	13
B46(6)	Other diseases of respiratory system	7	3
B46(7)	Other diseases of digestive system	2	3
B46(8)	Other diseases, genito-urinary system	3	3

#### SEX AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS

AGES AT DEATH IN YEARS	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 1	14	11	25
1 - 4	1	2	3
5 - 14	4	1	5
15 - 24	8	1	9
25 - 44	22	12	34
45 - 64	146	78	224
65 - 74	108	77	185
75 plus	106	152	258
TOTAL	409	334	743

Of the 743 deaths, 443 (59.6%) were in people over the age of 65 compared with 60.7% in 1967, 58.6% in 1966, 62% in 1965, 56.1% in 1964 and 63.8% in 1963. The proportion dying after their 75th birthday remained about the same as in 1967 - 34.7% in 1968 and 35.8% in 1967. The disparity between the number of deaths of males and females in the 45-74 age group is very striking.

DEATHS - 1968 - AGE AND SEX CLASSIFICATION IN THE 42 CAUSES

CAUSE OF DEATH		SEX	TOTAL ALL AGES	UNDER 4 WEEKS	4 WEEKS & UNDER 1 YEAR	AGE IN YEARS											75 & OVER
						1 -	5 -	15 -	25 -	35 -	45 -	55 -	65 -				
B4	Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-			
		F	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			
B5	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-			
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-			
B6	Other Tuberculosis, incl. late effects	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-			
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
B18	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	M	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-			
B19(1)	Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	M	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	3	2			
		F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-			
B19(2)	Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	M	35	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	4	15	8	5			
		F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	1	-			
B19(3)	Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		F	15	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	3	3	3			
B19(4)	Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	1			
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-			
B19(5)	Leukaemia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
B19(6)	Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	M	42	-	1	-	1	-	1	5	3	9	11	11			
		F	40	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	6	9	12	11			
B20	Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-			
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1			
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1			
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
B46(1)	Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-			
B23	Anaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-			
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2			
B46(3)	Mental Disorders	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
B46(4)	Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-			
		F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2			
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	2			
		F	8	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	4			
B27	Hypertensive Disease	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	2	-			
		F	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	3			
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	M	101	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	13	33	35	16			
		F	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	7	30			
B29	Other forms of Heart Disease	M	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	8			
		F	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	21			
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	M	85	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	2	13	12			
		F	54	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	4	1	15	31			
B45(5)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	3	2			
		F	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	9			
B31	Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-			
B32	Pneumonia	M	31	-	3	-	-	-	1	1	2	-	4	20			
		F	20	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	13			
B33(1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	M	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15	14	13			
		F	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	5			
B33(2)	Asthma	M	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-			
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	-			
B46(5)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	7	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2			
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1			
B34	Peptic Ulcer	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-			
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
B38	Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-			
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-			
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-			
B46(7)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1			
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1			
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-			
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1			
B39	Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1			
B46(8)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2			
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2			
B42	Congenital Anomalies	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1			
		F	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-			
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	M	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		F	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		F	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
B45	Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	3			
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	-			
		F	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-			
BE48	All other Accidents	M	8	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	2	-	-	2			
		F	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4			
BE49	Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries	M	8	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	-	1			
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-			
BE50	All other External Causes	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-			
TOTAL ALL CAUSES		M	409	6	8	1	4	8	8	18	47	99	108	106			
		F	334	9	2	2	1	1	5	7	34	44	77	152			



## INQUESTS

29 inquests were held upon residents of the Borough during 1968 and the causes of death recorded by the Registrars of Births and Deaths following receipt of the Coroners' certificates were as follows:-

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>Natural Causes</b>	-	3	3
<b>Accidents:</b>			
Road Accidents ... ..	11	2	13
Struck by object ... ..	1	-	1
Drowning ... ..	2	-	2
Explosions ... ..	1	-	1
Electrocution ... ..	1	-	1
Carbon-monoxide poisoning	1	-	1
Fall from buildings ...	-	1	1
<b>Suicide:</b>			
Hit by railway train ...	1	-	1
Barbiturate poisoning ...	1	2	3
Carbon-monoxide poisoning (car) ... ..	1	-	1
<b>Homicide:</b>			
Firearm ... ..	-	1	1
	20	9	29

## POPULATION

According to the Registrar-General the population of the town grew by 5,210 between 30th June 1967 and the same date in 1968. The natural increase, births less deaths, came to 893 and the implication is, therefore, that 4,317 people came into the town during the year.

As will be seen from the accompanying table, the increase in population in the town for the past few years has been very small and I have felt that an under-estimate was being made, particularly as the number on the Electoral Register was increasing and the number of houses in multi-occupation went up quite rapidly.

No very special features occurred during 1968 and one must assume that the increase allocated most recently by the Registrar-General is in fact one which should more properly be considered as part of a more gradual growth over the last four or five years.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Natural Increase (births less deaths)</i>	<i>Immigration or Emigration (-)</i>	<i>Population</i>
1956	430	820	69,190
1957	497	1,873	71,560
1958	705	1,355	73,620
1959	617	1,213	75,450
1960	760	1,200	77,410
1961	958	2,322	80,690
1962	1,035	975	82,700
1963	948	562	84,210
1964	1,183	- 493	84,900
1965	1,022	- 302	85,620
1966	898	- 828	85,690
1967	858	312	86,860
1968	893	4,317	92,070

## II. GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

### Street Cleansing

The use of mechanical sweeping machines has continued to maintain an adequate footpath sweeping service in the town in which there is still a great shortage of labour.

There seems to be little improvement in the behaviour of the public so far as litter is concerned and the task of keeping clean more than 100 miles of roads and footpaths is no mean job.

### Street Litter Bins

The use of litter bins is a matter of education and the recognition of personal responsibility in maintaining the cleanliness of one's surroundings. From observation it is obvious that much in the way of education has still to be done.

### Street Gulleys

All gulleys within the Borough are cleansed at least twice a year with the use of two machines.

### Refuse Collection and Disposal

No particular problem occurred in this service during the year and a high standard of refuse collection and disposal was maintained. The use of large containers, each holding as much as 12 ordinary dustbins was extended whenever possible.

Once more I would like to draw attention to the special collection of articles which are too large or unwieldly to put into dustbins. A post-card to the Engineer will result in these articles being collected. Ditches, vacant plots, public parks or other people's gardens are not the places for unwanted rubbish. As the special collections are free there is no excuse for such anti-social behaviour.

The Council have recently built and put into operation a large modern Refuse Pulverising Plant capable of processing approximately 200 tons of refuse a day. In addition to Slough refuse the plant is dealing with refuse from Windsor Borough and Eton Urban District.

Many Local Authorities have shown great interest in the plant which incorporates many modern innovations.

## Unwanted Vehicles

The Borough Council takes a very realistic line with the problem of unwanted vehicles. It will only cost you £3 for the Council to take the vehicle to be disposed of but if you can get it to the Destructor Works yourself it will cost you nothing. By the way, there are also legal formalities to be dealt with so far as the Taxation Authority is concerned - the Borough Engineer will even advise you on this.

In 1968/69, 240 vehicles were removed and a further 230 were deposited by owners at the Chalvey compound.

## Salvage

Waste paper collected and sold - 307 tons for £2,898  
Baled tins collected and sold - 257 tons for £1,231

## Civic Amenities Act, 1967

This Act enables residents of the Borough to dispose of domestic and garden refuse, free of charge at the Chalvey Destructor Works.

The Act also covers the disposal of derelict and abandoned vehicles, whether they are deposited on the Highway or Private Land. This part of the Act became official from 1st July, 1968.

## Water

### *Middle Thames Water Board*

The Chief Engineer to the Board, Mr. G.S. Baker kindly supplied me with the information that another 390 dwellings within the area of Slough Borough were connected to the mains during 1968. He also informed me that bacteriological samples were taken weekly from each of the Board's sources and analysed and that chemical analyses were made twice a year.

As an area develops both by increased population and with additional and more complex industry more and more water is needed. For this reason the Middle Thames Water Board has continually to be seeking additional sources of water so that shortage will not be felt. The naturally occurring salts in all these sources is rarely the same and few of these additional supplies have the natural fluoride content which was so valuable in the supply coming from Pococks Lane; as the result the town is in serious danger of losing the beneficial effect of this substance. It is possible to replace fluoride by adding the necessary chemical to the water supply but this needs the agreement of all the authorities in whose area the Board supplies water - the whole question of fluoridation has been one of bitter controversy for some years and the necessary agreement of all the authorities concerned has not yet been received.



Water (cont'd)

### *Slough Estates*

There was no change in the water supply or system during 1968. Results of analyses which were kindly supplied to me by the Chief Engineer, Mr. A. Froggatt showed the water to be consistently wholesome and pure.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Riding Establishments Act, 1939

Animal Boarding Establishment Act, 1963

Mr. J.E. Garland, the Council's Veterinary Surgeon continued to visit all the establishments under the above Acts at irregular intervals during the year, thus ensuring that the conditions under which animals were kept continued to be satisfactory or were brought up to a satisfactory standard.

National Assistance Act, 1948

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1963

No action was necessary under the above acts during 1968.

### STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The table below shows the medical work associated with the appointment of new staff to the Borough Council, Slough Committee for Education, and the Bucks County Council in this area.

It was interesting to note that the number of medical examinations required for the Borough Council dropped quite considerably due to the fact that medical questionnaires were introduced during the year.

	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Officers of Slough Borough Council	53	97	117	115	71	29
Officers of the Bucks County Council	109	21	24	17	27	41
Teachers' Training Colleges and teaching for first time	56	72	89	101	101	129
Medical Questionnaires Bucks County Council	-	242	141	250	261	259
Slough Borough Council						43



## LABORATORY

There was a slight increase in the number of examinations carried out in the laboratory during the year - 1,215 in 1968 compared with 1,110 in 1967.

Generally speaking, there was a fall in clinical samples and an increase in "environmental" samples - milk, water and ice cream.

Faeces for typhoid/coli/dysentery group	8 - all negative
Urine for routine examination	196
Haemoglobin estimations	-
Blood Counts	5

### Milk Samples:

*All passed as satisfactory*

(a) Phosphatase test	218
(b) Methylene Blue test	251
(c) Turbidity test	5
(d) Chemical tests for fats, solids and water	312

Samples of Fresh Cream	40
------------------------	----

### Water Samples:

(a) Drinking water	7
(b) Swimming bath water	61
(c) Chemical tests	-

### Ice Cream

(a) Chemical tests	56
(b) Bacteriological tests	56

All Grade I

## MORTUARY

The number of post mortems was 25 fewer than in 1967 but the need for adequate facilities remains abundantly clear.

1960	...	125	1965	...	174
1961	...	135	1966	...	192
1962	...	138	1967	...	200
1963	...	133	1968	...	175
1964	...	157			

## CREMATORIUM

Once again I would like to thank the Superintendent and Staff of the Crematorium for the help which they gave to me, as Medical Referee, and to my Deputies during 1968. There is no doubt that the help we receive makes our task much easier and delays, which could be embarrassing, are very largely avoided.

The number of cremations showed some increase over previous years. 1,321 cremations during 1968 was about 150 more than in 1967.

## HOME HELP SERVICE

The following table shows that there was a small expansion in the number of people helped during 1968. Out of the 793 families helped during the year, no less than 713 came into the chronic and elderly categories.

Number of Home Helps as at 31st December:-	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Part-time	62	79	82	93	71
Number of Good Neighbours as at 31st December:-	12	20	22	29	17
Number of Cases who received help:-					
(a) Acute Sick	61	69	44	38	48
(b) Chronic Sick	60	52	37	52	79
(c) Aged and Infirm	432	473	538	582	603
(d) Tuberculosis	2	1	-	-	-
(e) Maternity	57	58	55	45	30
(f) Good Neighbours		17	34	35	31
(g) Problem Families		4	2	-	-
(h) Mentally Disordered		3	1	3	2

## MEALS ON WHEELS

The Meals on Wheels Service began its third year during 1968 and ran very nearly at full capacity during the whole year.

The fourth van had been available from October 1967 and so the number of meals delivered in 1968 was much greater than previously - 49,185 meals were sent out in 1968 compared with 39,846 in 1967.

There is no doubt that the meals are greatly enjoyed and I am sure they are contributing much to the health of the recipients. All the staff concerned with the meals have continued to show a very great interest in the service which they provide and this in itself helps to give a 'bonus' of social service on top of the mere supply of food.

## CASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEARS 1959 - 1968

Y E A R	CASES NOTIFIED AND POPULATION IN THOUSANDS									
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959
	92	87	86	85	84	84	82	80	77	75
Acute Poliomyelitis - Paralytic Non-Paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	2	3	16	2	8	9	2	8	1
Encephalitis - Infective	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Post-Infective	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	2	3	5	5	6	5	6	9	22
Food Poisoning	4	1	1	2	1	3	3	18	3	2
Malaria (contracted abroad)	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Measles	234	572	370	1,430	191	1,066	193	1,324	244	797
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	4	...
Paratyphoid	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	1	5	10	2	2	8	7	20	17	71
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	1	4	27	20	24	14	12	29	41
Scarlet Fever	9	21	32	20	23	18	7	18	32	68
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	30	27	40	30	47	35	38	53	51	40
- Non-Pulmonary	14	11	8	8	15	9	9	5	5	7
Whooping Cough	12	12	21	3	35	28	28	19	27	46
Infective Jaundice	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

# MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	JAN.	FEB.	MAR.	APR.	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG.	SEPT.	OCT.	NOV.	DEC.	TOTAL
Dysentery ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning ... ..	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	4
Measles ... ..	5	4	11	19	10	20	52	48	16	8	4	37	234
Pneumonia ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	3
Scarlet Fever ... ..	-	-	2	1	-	-	1	-	1	2	1	1	9
Tuberculosis -													
Pulmonary ... ..	2	1	3	5	-	3	2	4	-	4	5	1	30
Non-Pulmonary ... ..	-	-	1	2	2	-	1	1	2	2	2	1	14
Whooping Cough ... ..	-	-	-	2	2	1	1	-	1	-	5	-	12
Malaria (contracted abroad) ... ..	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2
Infective Jaundice ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	4
Typhoid Fever ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1



# INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN WARDS OF BOROUGH

	BURNHAM NORTH	BURNHAM SOUTH	CENTRAL NORTH	CENTRAL SOUTH	CHALVEY	FARNHAM NORTH	FARNHAM SOUTH	LANGLEY	STOKE NORTH	STOKE SOUTH	UPTON	TOTAL
Dysentery ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	4
Measles ...	42	34	13	2	23	18	29	24	21	20	8	234
Pneumonia ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever ...	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	5	1	-	-	9
Tuberculosis												
Pulmonary ...	2	3	3	3	1	6	3	6	1	2	-	30
Non-Pulmonary ...	-	1	2	1	1	2	-	-	-	4	-	14
Whooping Cough ...	-	-	-	2	-	5	-	3	1	-	1	12
Malaria (contracted abroad) ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Infective Jaudice ...	1	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	4
Typhoid Fever ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### MEASLES

There was no month during which notifications of measles were absent. Conversely there was no sign of a true epidemic, although strangely enough the highest incidence of the disease was in the summer; July having 52 notifications and August 48.

Vaccination against measles became generally available during 1968 and although no specific campaign was mounted, many children received protection against the disease mostly by their family doctors.

### TYPHOID FEVER

A baby of under a year old was admitted to hospital and subsequently found to be suffering from Typhoid Fever. Investigations showed that her mother was carrying the condition but that no other persons who had been in contact with either of them were infected. It seems, probable therefore, that the mother had become infected in her native Southern Europe and had been carrying the disease for some considerable time.

The baby's infection cleared very quickly but it has not yet been possible to stop the mother's carrier state. Periodic examinations are carried out and because of the mother's co-operation I am convinced there is no danger to her family or to the community at large.

### INFECTIVE JAUNDICE

Infective Jaundice became notifiable for the first time in July under the new Infectious Disease Regulations 1968. As will be seen from the table, 4 cases were notified during the remainder of the year.

### OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS

Apart from those already mentioned, there is little comment to make apart from saying that the incidence of infectious disease remained at a very low level.

### VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The following table shows the varying type of immunising agents used during 1968 and the numbers of protecting procedures administered by general practitioners and doctors on the staff of the Health Department.

The number of immunisations during 1968 dropped; this is due to the fact that there was a re-timing of the immunisations. It is believed, however, that with the use of the computer, the total population of children immunised will in later years be shown to have risen.

	1966	1967	1968
Primary Diphtheria	4	5	4
Primary Tetanus	31	25	9
Primary Diphtheria/Tetanus	90	105	89
Primary Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/ Tetanus (triple)	1,103	1,147	1,075
Primary Vaccination against Smallpox	1,140	1,208	630
Boosters - Tetanus	27	73	29
- Triple	1,787	2,151	1,004

If one looks at initial, or primary protection against disease then the following comparison may be made.

#### *Primary Protection*

	1966	1967	1968
Diphtheria	1,241	1,593	1,168
Whooping Cough	1,147	1,484	1,075
Tetanus	1,268	1,614	1,173
Smallpox	1,140	1,208	630

The figures already given refer to the Borough of Slough but the records of the fight against poliomyelitis are only available for the South Bucks Area - Slough Borough, Eton Urban District and Eton Rural District:-

Primary protection - 3 doses	-	1,938
Boosters	-	1,383

### TUBERCULOSIS

#### (a) New Cases

- (i) *Pulmonary Tuberculosis*. The number of new cases notified during the year was slightly higher than that recorded for 1967 - 30 against 27 - but still well below the next lowest figure of 35 which occurred in 1963 when the population was only 84,000 compared with 92,000 in 1968.

Once again the high proportion of those with Asian names is notable but the figure is nearer one-third of the total compared with nearly a half during the previous year or two. In figures, there were 8 Males and 3 Females with Asian names out of totals of 21 and 9 respectively.

- (ii) *Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis*. The number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis rose once again, from eight in 1965 and 1966, to eleven in 1967 and fourteen in 1968. Once again the proportion bearing Asian names is high - five out of seven in both males and females.

While not actively encouraging the figures shown in the following tables indicate that the disease is slowly diminishing although there will need to be active methods of prevention and treatment continued for quite a while to come before it can be said that tuberculosis is no longer a hazard to our community. Fortunately it is now usually possible to count upon the co-operation of patients and their contacts during follow-up investigations and there is no doubt that, with such a low level of incidence, this system of close investigation is the only one which will lead to eradication.

<i>Age in Years</i>	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
0 -	2	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-
15 -	3	1	1	-
25 -	3	1	-	3
35 -	3	1	3	2
45 -	3	2	-	1
65 and over	7	4	3	1
TOTALS	21	9	7	7

*Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis*

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Caecum	-	1
Cervical glands	3	2
Axillary Lymphnode	-	1
T.B. Peritonitis	-	1
Kidney	-	1
Right Elbow	1	-
Right Wrist	1	-
Neck glands	2	1
TOTALS	7	7



(b) Notification Register

Once again there is shown to be a slight reduction in the number of cases on the register of cases of tuberculosis - in fact during 1968 there was a reduction in both the pulmonary and non-pulmonary registers.

PULMONARY

<i>Males</i>			<i>Females</i>			<i>Total</i>		
1966	1967	1968	1966	1967	1968	1966	1967	1968
345	339	332	245	246	238	590	585	570

NON-PULMONARY

<i>Males</i>			<i>Females</i>			<i>Total</i>		
1966	1967	1968	1966	1967	1968	1966	1967	1968
52	56	48	48	48	42	100	104	90

(c) B. C. G. Vaccinations

The table below shows that more than a hundred additional children were tested for reaction to tuberculosis during 1968 compared with 1967. Out of these slightly more showed a positive reaction, that is to say indicated some previous experience of tuberculosis. It must be remembered, however, that a previous B.C.G. vaccination will also result in a positive result to the test and here again the figure is loaded because quite a number of Asian children were among those tested and a considerable proportion of them will have received B.C.G. before coming to this country, many of them having been inoculated in infancy.

All positive reactors are referred to the Chest Clinic where steps are taken by Dr. Brian Thompson and his colleagues to assess the importance or otherwise of the reaction and to initiate treatment where necessary. Whenever thought wise, family or school contacts are sought.

The following table shows the details for the past ten years:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. Tested</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>	<i>No. Negative</i>
1959	937	90 ( 9.6%)	847 (90.4%)
1960	1,422	74 ( 5.2%)	1,348 (94.8%)
1961	1,226	132 (10.8%)	1,094 (89.2%)
1962	1,369	113 ( 8.25%)	1,256 (91.7%)
1963	1,310	60 ( 5.3%)	1,129 (94.7%)
1964	1,513	121 ( 8.3%)	1,330 (91.7%)
1965	1,324	122 ( 9.2%)	1,202 (90.8%)
1966	1,394	77 ( 5.5%)	1,191 (94.5%)
1967	1,242	128 (10.3%)	1,114 (89.7%)
1968	1,357	159 (11.8%)	1,198 (88.2%)



(d) Deaths from Tuberculosis

The following table shows how the number of deaths per thousand of the population has still been falling gradually over the past ten years and that the disease is now a very minor feature in the death tables. Perhaps the time will not be far distant when it fails to feature at all.

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Year	Population	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary Death Rate per 1000 Population
		Males	Females	Males	Females	
1959	75,450	7	-	1	1	0.09
1960	77,410	2	1	-	1	0.04
1961	80,690	5	-	-	1	0.06
1962	82,700	2	2	-	-	0.048
1963	84,210	1	2	-	-	0.036
1964	84,900	3	1	-	-	0.047
1965	85,620	2	2	-	-	0.047
1966	85,690	2	2	-	-	0.047
1967	86,860	3	-	-	1	0.035
1968	92,070	2	1	2	-	0.032



## HOME SAFETY

The first major event of the year under review was the final of the first Home Safety Quiz Competition to be staged in this area. It took place at the Town Hall, Slough, on the evening of March 27th when a large audience of people from the various women's organisations that had taken part in earlier rounds saw the British Red Cross Society, Langley, beat the Beechwood Women's Club, Burnham, to become the first winners of this Competition. As a means of promoting an interest in Home Safety the Quiz was undoubtedly a success and plans were made for it to be repeated, possibly on an annual basis. Thus when the arrangements for the second Quiz began later in the year it was pleasing to note that even more clubs than before entered for the contest. A special feature of the first Quiz was the use of a secondary theme; this was Family Health and the questions were provided by the Area Health Education Organiser. For the second contest it was decided that the secondary subject should be Local Knowledge and the Civic Society very kindly agreed to be responsible for this aspect. Further interest was added to this event when Mr. Frank Lawrance proprietor of the Slough Observer offered to present a 'Slough Observer' Home Safety Team Trophy to be competed for annually.

The third annual Home Safety Picture Quiz Competition was arranged for children attending Borough Junior Schools. The Competition was started with the aim of stimulating an interest in home safety among the children and it is encouraging to report that this year's event produced a record entry of 1,170. The young prizewinners were invited to the Town Hall, Slough, on the 9th December when they were presented with their prizes by His Worship the Mayor, Alderman J. Rigby.

Children attending the Borough's Infant Schools were not forgotten and they were encouraged to show an interest in home safety by the Home Safety Puppet Show which toured their schools.

A multi-language (Asian) leaflet dealing with the problems of using an oil heater safely was produced for circulation among the town's Asian community. Distribution was made through the Community Relations Officer and the Child Welfare Clinic Staff.

Preparations were made for the introduction of a local Home Safety Handbook.

Further publicity was provided by the circulation of book-markers through the Public Libraries, the display of posters and the use of the slogan-printing facilities on the Postal Franking Machine in the Public Health Department.

The Home Safety Council co-operated with the local Health Education Organiser at the Langley Secondary School where a combined Health Education/Home Safety Stand was mounted and help was also

given to the Annual In-Service Training Course for Home Helps when Home Safety was one of the subjects discussed.

Although it is now four years since its release, 'Dead Easy', the Home Safety Council film on the prevention of poisoning accidents, was again in considerable demand throughout the year. The hire copies were in constant use both here in Slough and elsewhere in the country and one new print was supplied to a Midlands local authority. It should perhaps also be mentioned that this film's companion in the 'film library', the now veteran 'Fabrics and Fireguards', was also still very popular and a further two new copies of this film were supplied to Messrs. Proban Limited, the makers of flame-resistant materials.

Lectures, demonstrations and film shows have been given throughout the year to various organisations, schools and clubs. Requests for the examination of candidates for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Brownie and Guide Safety Badges, etc. have all been met.

## HEALTH EDUCATION

A wide range of Health Education was undertaken in the Borough during the year with many kinds of groups including school children, youth groups, parent groups, womens' and Old People's clubs, and an equally wide range of topics was covered including cancer, foot health, good nutrition and oral resuscitation.

Ante-Natal Classes remained very popular, with Health Visitors and Midwives undertaking most of the tuition. These classes were attended by 629 women and in addition 311 couples attended the evening film shows. In addition to the special ante-natal classes for immigrant Asian women, at which an interpreter is present, a course on general health education has also been successfully run for this group and has been very well attended.

Mothers Clubs continue to flourish and a new Club was formed at Burnham in May. A wide variety of topics was studied during the year, many of them related to the main theme of 'Problems and Preoccupations of Modern Life'. The highlight of the year was the Rally organised by the South Bucks Clubs and held in the Community Centre, Farnham Road and attended by an audience of nearly 800 club members from all over the County. The Chairman was Dr. J.J.A. Reid, County Medical Officer, the guest speaker 'Fabian of the Yard' and most clubs took part in a Personality Contest which was eventually won by Wraysbury.

### Health Education in Schools

The Health Department staff gave talks and film shows on the following subjects, mainly in the secondary schools.



Dental Health and Hygiene  
Smoking and Health  
Growing Up  
Parent Craft  
First Aid

In addition, help was given to the Langley Secondary School during their Health Week in October by providing exhibits, speakers and films.

The Health Education Organiser also co-operated with the Home Safety Officer in presenting the Health and Home Safety Quiz to the Old People's Clubs during the year.

### **Exhibits and Posters**

Posters have been distributed regularly for display in Child Health Centres, Nursery Schools etc. and covered the usual variety of topics.



FOR THE YEAR 1968

Section H - Miscellaneous

TABLE NO. 2 (contd.)

Premises at which Food is prepared, stored or sold	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,364
Factories, Workplaces etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	362
Shops, Offices etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	959
Clean Air	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,319
General Hygiene	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,415
Pest Infestation Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,964
Miscellaneous Matters	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,749

## S E C T I O N    B

## HOUSING

Housing continues to be a most important aspect of environmental health and the Department has again been very active particularly in the fields of improvement and multiple occupation.

**Demolition and Closing of Dwellings**

During 1968 two Demolition Orders and two Closing Orders were made under Section 17 of the Housing Act 1957.

**Repair and Maintenance of Dwelling Houses**

During the year some 151 complaints were received with respect to disrepair in dwelling houses. The District Public Health Inspectors made 889 visits to houses for initial inspections and 1,574 re-inspections to secure compliance with notices served and to supervise repair works.

In connection with repair work under the Housing and Public Health Acts, 10 statutory notices and 203 preliminary notices were served during 1968.

**Multiple Occupation**

As stated in the 1967 report, the multiple occupation of houses in Slough is growing continuously and the decision to appoint an officer to deal entirely with this work has been fully justified.

There are now over 1,300 houses in multiple occupation and more and more houses are being purchased by commonwealth immigrants and in turn going into multiple occupation. This is to be expected if the influx of Commonwealth immigrants into Slough continues at

its present rate. As people already living in houses in multiple occupation obtain enough money for a deposit they purchase their own property, but as the mortgage and other repayments are so big they are forced to sub-let to be able to keep up the repayments and so another house becomes multi-occupied.

Commonwealth immigrants are not the only people occupying houses in multiple occupation as the survey started in 1968 has proved, but it is fair to say they make up a very large percentage of the total. Much was made in the press of the decision to appoint a Specialist Officer with such references as 'Watch dog' and implying that this officer's job was solely to check on overcrowding. Obviously it is important to prevent overcrowding but the main object of the exercise is to ensure that those people who live in multiple occupation do so under the best hygienic and sanitary conditions possible. It is the Council's aim to see that proper washing and cooking facilities etc., and means of escape from fire are provided where necessary.

In 1968 207 'Directions' were given limiting the number of individuals who may occupy a house, and it is intended to continue this policy during the coming year as by this means no undue hardships are brought on the occupants, in that they are not forced on to the street. Five notices under Section 15 of the Housing Act 1961 were served to provide extra facilities and 61 notices under Section 16 of the Housing Act 1961 were served to provide suitable means of escape in case of fire. The question of fire escapes is one in which the Department has taken a very active part, and congratulations have been offered by the Bucks Fire Brigade on the work done in this field. Over 80 notices have been served requiring work in connection with fire hazards at houses in multiple occupation above two storeys in height, and it is extremely comforting to know there have been no reports of fires or loss of life in such houses.

In 1968 there were eight offences under the Housing Act 1961 in respect of contraventions of 'Directions' and it was found necessary to institute summary proceedings in these cases. A fine was imposed in each case and there has been no further trouble in any of these instances.

It is very pleasing to report that since the appointment of the present Community Relations Officer co-operation between the Department and the immigrants generally has greatly improved. This Officer and the Department's Specialist Officer in this field have assisted each other on difficult housing cases and this cordial relationship is greatly appreciated.

During the year considerable literature regarding the law affecting multiple occupation has been circulated in the three main Asian languages together with an English copy and it is hoped that this has gone a long way to clarify the position.

It is proposed to continue the house to house survey during 1969 as this is the only sure way of keeping abreast of the latest position. All new houses reported will then be fully inspected by the Specialist Officer and the appropriate action taken.

### Housing Improvement

Thirty-three applications for standard grants were approved, twenty-three of these being from owner/occupiers. No applications were received for discretionary grants, it having been found that for the type of work envisaged the applicant fared just as well financially by applying for a higher standard grant, that is, where bathrooms are built involving structural work of extension which naturally cost more than simple bedroom conversions. Four such higher grants were approved. Rents higher than otherwise permissible were fixed for three houses which were the subject of standard grant applications.

A total of £5,950 was paid as standard grants for providing amenities as follows:-

TABLE NO. 3

<i>Baths</i>	<i>Wash-hand Basins</i>	<i>Hot Water Supplies</i>	<i>Indoor W.C's</i>	<i>Food Storage</i>
37	44	46	36	32

If an owner/occupier sells a house within three years of its improvement with the aid of a grant he is obliged to repay a proportion to the Borough Council; this is normally effected at the time a search is made in the Register of Land Charges for the purchaser's solicitors. A routine check disclosed one case where a house had been sold but no repayment of grant had been made and £103 was reclaimed by the Council.

Improvements were completed at two houses as a result of tenants asking the Council to exercise compulsion to the owners. Both owners sold the houses following receipt of the improvement notices; in one case the house was bought by the 'sitting' tenant who then carried out the improvements himself.

### Residential Caravan Sites

There were some 98 residential caravans stationed in the Borough in 1968 and subject to licences under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Periodic inspections revealed that conditions were satisfactory.



There 83 caravans on the Foxborough Farm Site at Langley. This site has permanent planning consent but is subject to conditions of the Site Licence.

Ditton Park Road Caravan Site with 8 vans continues to be operated satisfactorily under its permanent planning consent and site licence.

### Itinerant Caravanners

Very little trouble arose from "Gypsy" caravans during 1968. There were two or three instances where "travellers" occupied oddpieces of land but in each case their stay was of short duration.

During 1968 officers made 143 visits in respect of caravans.

### Rent Act, 1957

The provisions of the above Act relating to the repair and maintenance of controlled rented dwellings continues to remain in force even though the Rent Act, 1965, is now in operation, but there were no applications for Certificates of Disrepair.

### Information re: Local Land Charges etc.

Information as to statutory orders made in respect of dwelling houses and outstanding notices requiring works of repair was supplied in respect of properties upon a request for official search of the Land Charges Register.

In addition, particulars as to properties were supplied in all cases in which mortgages were being arranged under the Housing Acts in respect of the purchase of small dwellings. A number of requests for information was dealt with during the year as to whether properties changing hands were included in the Borough Council's Programme of Housing Clearance.

### Council Housing Estates

- (a) In connection with the allocation of council houses, 18 inspections were made by the District Public Health Inspectors for the purpose of investigating the living conditions of housing applicants under the Council's Housing Point Scheme to enable a recommendation for award of points to be made where necessary.
- (b) Liaison is maintained with the Housing Department on various matters concerning Council Estates and other Corporation property. Many visits to such properties were made by the District Public Health Inspectors in connection with structural defects, rodent control, vermin, etc.



## SECTION C

### SAFEGUARDING OF FOOD SUPPLIES

The safeguarding of food supplies forms an important part of the duties of public health inspectors and throughout the year a great deal of time and effort has been exercised in this connection.

Food shops, factory and school canteens and food manufacturing premises are all regularly inspected and have generally been found to be satisfactory and a good standard of cleanliness has been maintained.

Within the Borough of Slough are a number of large food manufacturing companies. These include biscuit and chocolate making factories, bakeries and other food manufacturing units whose products are distributed extensively and in some instances nationally and internationally. Companies producing large quantities of foodstuff for such widespread distribution are aware of the responsibilities which they have in the field of quality control and food hygiene and many have courses of instruction for employees on the practical application of the Food Hygiene Regulations as these regulations apply to their particular food industry.

During the year public health inspectors for Local Authorities in other parts of the country received complaints concerning the presence of foreign matter in goods manufactured by companies situated in Slough and as a result requested the help of the Public Health Inspectors at Slough to trace the sources of the foreign matter. Thorough inspection of various factories was made and the specialised knowledge in the processes of food manufacture which public health inspectors possess, enabled the source of the offending materials to be located.

The inspection of food in the course of transit has formed part of the work of safeguarding food supplies. The close proximity of the M.4 Motorway, part of which runs through the Borough, has necessitated inspection of consignments of foodstuffs, which as the result of accidents, have become contaminated by extraneous matters or have thawed out in the case of frozen food.

Regular inspections of retail food stores, including grocery, greengrocery, delicatessen, meat and fish shops etc., have been made and advice given in many instances on the prevention of contamination. Advice is normally well received by proprietors of establishments and new methods adopted.

A few new restaurants have opened in Slough during the year and some of these specialise in the preparation of Indian and Oriental foods which are becoming increasingly popular and cater for public taste. Considerable time has been spent outlining the necessity for adequate standards of hygiene in these premises and

the proprietors are generally pleased to receive the help and advice given in this respect by public health inspectors.

The safeguarding of food supplies in course of manufacture, transit or wholesale and retail sale is of utmost importance, but, likewise the control of food in course of preparation and storage at home is equally important. Public Health Inspectors have lectured on this subject to students at Slough College of Technology, who are preparing for examinations held by the Royal Society for the Promotion of Health, and also to Women's Institutes and similar associations.

The number of itinerant vendors of food has increased as has the number of shops and licensed premises selling sandwiches and other 'quick' and ready cooked meals such as hot pies, pasties and hot soup, etc. The temperatures at which certain foods must be kept is well defined in the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and with the great increase of food premises selling foods described above require careful control in order to ensure that the Regulations are being complied with.

Advice and help has been given in the eradication of insect pests and rodents associated with stored food and food premises and suitable treatments of premises have been carried out by our own staff or by private companies specialising in this activity.

Large consignments of pre-packed boneless beef have been sent to Slough from Ireland without inspection at the port of entry and it is the duty of the Public Health inspector to inspect the consignment and pass or reject quantities of meat as the case may be.

The protection of foodstuff from contamination is of prime importance and the principal object of this and that of persons employed in the food industry should be to ensure that foodstuff reaches the customer in a sound and wholesome condition and free from any extraneous foreign matter or contamination of any type.

Food premises in Slough come within the following broad classifications:-

1. Catering premises, canteens, licensed premises, etc.	171
2. Food factories, including all food manufacturing premises	23
3. Retail food shops	298

The number of inspections made by Public Health Inspectors of food premises within the Borough was 1,364.

## Dairies and Milk Supplies

Routine sampling of milk was carried out during the year at the two pasteurisation plants situated within the Borough and at other dealers' premises.

The register of Dairies and Distributors of Milk showed the following Dealers in milk were licensed at the end of 1968.

1. Dealers (Pasteurisers) Licences	-	2
<u>Dealers (Pre-packed milk) Licence</u>		
2. Dealers Untreated (Farm Bottled) Licences	-	13
3. Dealers (Pasteurised Milk) Licences	-	62
4. Dealers (Sterilised Milk) Licences	-	44
5. Dealers (Ultra Heat Treated Milk) Licences	-	8

The two pasteurisation plants within the Borough receive milk in bulk from a wide area and at these premises milk is subjected to the High Temperature Short Time process of pasteurisation. 257 milk samples were taken during the year and all passed the prescribed tests.

Details of samples taken are as follows:-

TABLE NO. 4

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK	
<i>Classification</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>
1. Pasteurised Milk	223
2. Untreated Milk	28
3. Sterilised Milk	5
4. Ultra Heat Treated Milk	1

## Cream

Thirty-nine samples of cream were taken at regular intervals throughout the year in order to determine the bacteriological quality of cartons as delivered by milk roundsmen to households within the Borough.



All samples of cream taken except one were found to be of good bacteriological quality.

### Ice-cream

The number of premises registered for the sale of ice-cream in the Borough is 285. Considerable increase in the sale of ice-cream by itinerant vendors has become apparent in recent years. These vehicles are all carefully inspected and samples of ice-cream are regularly taken for bacteriological examination.

TABLE NO. 5

METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST	
<i>Provisional Grade</i>	<i>Samples</i>
1) ) Satisfactory 2)	56
3) ) Unsatisfactory 4)	NIL

### Preparation and Manufacture of Preserved Food

At the end of 1968, 66 premises in the Borough were registered in pursuance of Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in respect of the manufacture of preserved foods as follows:-

Canning Factories	...	...	...	...	1
Preparation of shell fish	...	...	...	...	2
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	14
Manufacture of Sausages and Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	49

### Inspection of Meat

One hundred per cent inspection of all carcasses and offals of animals slaughtered at the old and the new Municipal Abattoirs was achieved by the Inspectors on duty. This inspection was carried out at the old abattoir by District Public Health Inspectors on a rota duty. At the new Municipal Abattoir there is a permanent staff, at present comprising a Public Health Inspector designated Superintendent/Senior Meat Inspector, and an authorised Meat Inspector, and two manual workers.

The following figures show the throughput of animals since the Borough Council took over the premises as a Municipal Abattoir in 1954.

TABLE NO. 6

	<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Sheep &amp; Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Total</i>
1954	2,977	5,351	3,400	1,078	12,866
1955	2,040	3,721	5,662	1,073	12,500
1956	1,990	3,736	4,854	1,135	11,715
1957	2,475	4,380	6,608	1,121	14,584
1958	3,370	5,585	8,683	987	18,625
1959	3,393	9,733	8,432	929	22,487
1960	3,764	6,898	8,281	1,083	20,026
1961	4,512	10,744	10,256	1,234	26,746
1962	4,205	11,477	13,312	1,142	30,136
1963	3,873	11,970	14,034	882	30,759
1964	4,143	9,237	14,602	778	28,760
1965	3,991	6,643	17,244	578	30,421
1966	4,731	7,522	17,638	515	30,406
1967	5,582	8,045	17,549	437	31,883
1968	6,026	8,828	22,954	528	38,336

### Municipal Abattoir

The old premises, in Cippenham Lane, continued to function reasonably satisfactorily, having regard to the inadequacies, until October, 1968.

The new Municipal Abattoir was officially opened on the 7th October, 1968, by His Worship the Mayor, Alderman J. Rigby, and the premises commenced operation on Monday, 14th October, 1968.



TABLE NO. 7

## Summary of Carcases Inspected and Rejected

	CATTLE EX. COWS	COWS	SHEEP & LAMBS	PIGS	CALVES
No. of animals slaughtered and inspected ... ..	5,493	533	8,828	22,954	528
<b>Disease except Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses rejected ...	4	9	28	47	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected ... ..	1,690	197	762	1,214	-
% of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ... ..	30	38.6	8.9	5.4	0.9
<b>Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses rejected ...	-	-	-	1	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected ... ..	14	1	-	276	-
% of number inspected affected with tuberculosis ... ..	0.2	0.2	-	1.2	-
<b>Cysticercosis (c.bovis)</b>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected ... ..	56	4	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ..	16	2	-	-	-
Generalised condition whole carcasses rejected ... ..	-	-	-	-	-

TABLE NO. 8

## Weights of Rejected Meat

	TUBERCULOSIS			OTHER DISEASES		
	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Carcasses ... ..	1	0	14	126	3	22
Parts of Carcases and Organs	27	0	19	321	2	21
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>TOTAL WEIGHT 23 tons 16 cwts. 3 qrs. 20 lbs.</b>						

## Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

In pursuance of the above Act the Borough Council licensed 16 persons to slaughter animals intended for human consumption.

### Examination and Rejection of Other Foods

Some 965 visits were made during 1968 to wholesale and retail food premises for the purpose of examining other foods. 6 tons 16 cwts. 45 lbs. of food was voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption and destroyed by the Corporation.

TABLE NO. 9

<i>Type of Food</i>	<i>tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>
Cooked meats, bacon etc. ... ..		19	41
Canned Foods ... ..	4	7	52
Fish ... ..	-	-	-
Miscellaneous ... ..		10	41
Preserves ... ..			84
Frozen Foods ... ..		18	51

### Complaints relating to Food

Ninety-one complaints were received, which approximates last year's figure, and just under a quarter of these concerned mould, of which the bulk arose, as is to be expected, during the summer months. Ten complaints were of milk and milk bottles, twenty-seven of meat and meat products, and twenty-seven of bread and cereal products. Relatively few instances were discovered which involved insect infestation, this type of complaint usually arising where a degree of negligence has occurred on the part of the trader, by, for example, failing to rotate stocks, and facilitated by lack of hygiene in the premises permitting conditions favourable to insect growth and harbourage. Similarly there has been a noticeable absence of complaints arising from rodent infestation, either in the form of the mouse nibbled food, or contamination by rodent droppings. It would be very convenient but quite incorrect to draw the analogy from this that the rodent population in food premises has declined, or that protection and prevention measures were proving more successful.

Legal proceedings were instituted in two instances. Prepacked sausages which were affected by mould, resulted in a fine of £30 and 10 guineas costs, and the delivery of 33 lbs. of unsound pork to a school kitchen resulted in a fine and costs of exactly the same amounts. Defendants in both cases pleaded guilty.

Most complaints require considerable investigation by the district public health inspectors in order to establish the full facts and prevent as far as possible a recurrence of the conditions leading up to the complaints. Experience has shown that where food is sold which is unfit, it is reasonable to expect further similar unfit food on the shop premises, and this has unfortunately proved to be the case in a number of instances.

To illustrate the variety of complaints the following is a brief selection:-

Pig kidneys which were alleged to be 'high' were not unfit for food but smelt rather of acetic acid, and the newspaper wrapping smelt of fish and chips and vinegar. Investigation at the butcher's shop revealed that he used paper for wrapping, not newspaper.

Potato crisps said to have been 'rancid' and caused illness, yet the patient had not eaten any.

A tin of beans did not contain an 'insect' - but a piece of bean stalk.

The foreign matter in slices of bread was devitalised dough.

Tinned grapefruit juice contained whitish-yellow fragments which were in fact naringen, a natural constituent of grapefruit which crystallises in the canned product.

Watercress which was alleged to be unfit to eat had been bought a week before complaint was made.

Workers in a factory became ill after drinking soft drinks from a vending machine. Chemical analysis of samples of carbonated water from the vending machine, and of the mains water at the inlet indicated metallic contamination taking place in the machine. A new machine was installed and follow-up samples of the water proved satisfactory.

### Compositional Standards and Quality

Consignments of foodstuffs have for some years been sampled on importation at the docks, as well as in Slough where they are received by a local firm. Arrangements have now been made with the port health authority that all food intended for use in Slough and despatched direct from the docks in closed containers would be sampled for a stated period by the port health inspector and alternately for a similar period here at the destination. By this method an economy of sampling has been achieved and unnecessary



duplication eliminated. The Imported Food Regulations 1968 contain provision for the deferment of their enforcement when imported food is travelling in containers to a convenient place elsewhere than at the port of entry, which means that Slough Borough Council may acquire in certain instances the functions and duties of the port health authority. The Regulations are essentially measures for the protection of public health in relation to imported food and replace legislation enacted more than thirty years ago. They contain fairly extensive powers enabling public health inspectors to examine, detain and if necessary seize food, with special emphasis on meat and meat products, and samples of food taken from consignments can be for analysis by the public analyst or for bacteriological examination.

Following an escape of chlorine gas from a local factory samples of soft fruit, apples and vegetable leaves from nearby gardens were sent to the public analyst in order to establish their fitness for human consumption. They were in fact, quite fit to eat, being free of chlorides and chlorine, and various doubts in the minds of the residents as to the edibility of their garden produce were in part allayed.

Of the 182 samples sent to the public analyst five were reported as being unsatisfactory. The results are summarised in Table No. 10. One was a sample of substance manufactured in Pakistan to which the provisions of the Pharmacy and Medicines Act 1941 applied and which was claimed to keep hands smooth, prevent blackheads and pimples, make skin dust proof, prevent corns, and to turn 'unpleasant odour of perspiration in armpits into most desirable flavour'. In co-operation with the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain the importers agreed to withdraw stocks and amend the labels.

Minor labelling infringements were discovered in three cases. A sample of instant lemonade was a line no longer being manufactured and the makers made arrangements to withdraw from sale the remainder of the unsold stock. Discussions took place with manufacturers of yoghurt and sweets regarding the need to amend their labels. No further action was taken in regard to a sample of spaghetti containing charred farinaceous matter which did not affect its fitness for food.

In addition to the samples sent to the public analyst, four hundred and seventeen informal samples of foods were tested in the department. Fifty-six samples of ice cream and forty-nine samples of spirits were found to be satisfactory. Of the three hundred and twelve samples of milk, nineteen were low in non-fatty solids but check samples sent to the public analyst showed no added water. Two samples of untreated milk were examined and found free from antibiotics.

TABLE NO. 10

PRODUCT	PROCURED		ADULTERATED	
	Formal	Informal	Formal	Informal
Almonds (ground) ... ..	1			
Arrowroot ... ..	1			
Beverages ... ..	6			
Baking Powder ... ..		1		
Cheese and Cheese Products	10			
Fats ... ..	7			
Fish products ... ..	4	2		
Flavouring ... ..	3			
Flour confectionary and cereal products ... ..	10	4		1
Fruit and fruit products ...	8	2		
Gravy Browning ... ..	3			
Ice-cream and Lollies ...	1			
Jelly products ... ..	5			
Meat products ... ..	37	1		
Milk ... ..	4	7		
Medicinal products ... ..	7		2	
Milk products ... ..	14	1	1	
Pickles and sauces ... ..	8	2		
Preserves ... ..	8			
Soft Drinks ... ..	15		1	
Spices ... ..	16			
Sugar confectionery ...	4			
Sweeteners ... ..	1			
Vegetables ... ..	4	1		
Vinegar ... ..	5			
TOTALS ...	182	21	4	1

## SECTION D

## CLEAN AIR

Smoke and other pollution from our chimneys is a danger to the health of every town dweller. Each breath we take contains thousands of tiny, invisible particles of acidic, sooty and tarry matter and gritty dust. Most of the smoke nowadays, comes from the burning of raw coal in domestic fires discharging into the air at only roof height, and heaviest of all in cold and smoggy winter weather. Smog is simply natural fog laden with smoke.



The burning of raw coal in a primitive open fire is a selfish habit. Cosy to look at, no doubt, like the wood fires of our ancestors, with the smoke going through a hole in the roof, but the dirtiest and most wasteful way imaginable of using coal.

In industry, unlike the home, coal can be burned in modern furnaces with practically no smoke. In the home, coal can only be burned smokelessly by removing the smoke first - turning the coal into one of the forms of smokeless fuel. The change to smokeless heating is to be achieved in all our towns by stages, through the setting up of one smoke control area after another, until finally the whole town is free from smoke.

This will cost money but it must be remembered that the cost of air pollution is extremely high in this country. This is estimated to be in the region of £250,000,000 a year; or £5 a year for every man, woman, and child.

The highest bronchitis rates in the world are found in Britain and it has been found that there is a clear association between air pollution and the incidence of bronchitis and other respiratory diseases.

The Clean Air Act 1956 has done a lot towards reducing air pollution in this country. Further legislation in the form of the Clean Air Act 1968 has been made and is expected to come into operation shortly. This new Act gives local authorities more power to control grit and dust emission, and it also gives the Ministry power to force those local authorities lacking in initiative to proceed with a programme of smoke control.

### Smoke Control Areas

Under the Clean Air Act 1956 local authorities have the power to make smoke control areas. In such an area the emission of smoke from the chimneys of all buildings is controlled. In Slough the first smoke control order came into operation in 1961. Orders have been made steadily since that date. During 1968 the Borough of Slough Smoke Control Orders Nos. 11 and 12 came into operation. At the end of the year the total area of the Borough covered by smoke control orders was 2,953 acres including 13,766 buildings. In terms of acreage some 47% of the Borough was subject to Smoke Control Orders at the end of 1968, see Table No. 11.

Grants are available to householders amounting to seven-tenths of the reasonable cost of adapting firegrates to comply with the Smoke Control Order. The local authority is able to claim four-tenths of the total cost from the government, leaving the householder and the local authority to pay three-tenths of the cost each.

The commonest heating appliances installed up to now have been solid fuel appliances and gas fires. More and more are tending to use

gas for heating but very few applications for grant are received in respect of oil heaters. Grants for electric appliances have been restricted to those using off-peak electricity and consequently the number of electrical appliances installed has been somewhat smaller. However, the restriction has now been lifted and in future grants will be available towards the cost of all kinds of fixed electric heaters.

It has been found that an increasing number of householders are installing whole or part-house central heating and these welcomed the making of the Smoke Control Order which enabled them to obtain a grant, which although it was restricted to the cost of the reasonably necessary work, helped towards the total cost of the installation.

The public generally have co-operated well and it has been noticed that an increasing number of persons are enquiring as to when their houses are going to be included in a Smoke Control Area and appear to be anxious that the making of Orders be speeded up.

### **Industrial**

Since the passing of the Clean Air Act, 1956, there has been a tremendous improvement in the reduction in air pollution from industrial furnaces. These furnaces are much more efficient than they used to be when coal was cheap. Oil is the main fuel used nowadays and recently there has been a marked increase in the number of installations using oil with a low sulphur content.

New chimneys are subject to approval by the local authority, who must be satisfied that the height of the chimney is sufficient for the adequate disposal of smoke, grit, dust and gases so as not to be prejudicial to health or a nuisance. There are Regulations in force limiting the periods during which dark smoke may be emitted from industrial chimneys.

A close liaison has been maintained with the Borough Engineer's Department regarding plans submitted in relation to new chimneys.

### **Prior Approval**

A person intending to install a new furnace must, under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act 1956, notify the local authority and the furnace must be, so far as practicable, smokeless in operation. The Slough Borough Council operates a scheme of Prior Approval whereby a person proposing to install a new furnace submits details of the new plant for examination by the air pollution control officer in the Department. Prior Approval is granted if it is considered that the furnace will operate smokelessly. Most firms take advantage of this scheme as it is a means of safeguarding their interests at no cost to themselves. During the year 22

applications for Prior Approval were granted in respect of new furnaces within the Borough.

### Measurement of Air Pollution

Since October 1961, Slough has been taking part in a National Survey of Air Pollution in conjunction with the Air Pollution Section of the Ministry of Technology. For this purpose five volumetric and smoke filter instruments are in use and these instruments are situated in different parts of the Borough where they are visited daily. Also, there are three deposit gauges stationed at different points in the town, which require monthly attention.

The results obtained from these instruments are sent to the Ministry of Technology and are published later in their bulletins.

### Administration and Statistics

A separate specialist section in the Department deals with all matters relating to air pollution. A public health inspector with additional qualifications who specialises in air pollution is in charge of this section in which there are two technical assistants employed mainly in work connected with smoke control areas.

The work of the Department in relation to air pollution control is summarised as follows:-

Number of visits to industrial premises	...	382
Number of smoke observations (industrial)	...	165
Number of visits in connection with Prior Approval	... ..	62
Number of visits to domestic premises - mainly associated with Smoke Control Areas	...	2,098
Number of interviews at the office	... ..	695
Number of visits to smoke control areas in operation	... ..	1,277
Number of complaints regarding smoke	... ..	50
Number of visits in connection with the measurement of air pollution	... ..	1,240

The Chairman of the Services Committee and the Chief Public Health Inspector represent the Corporation on the National Society for Clean Air and the London and Home Counties Clean Air Advisory Council. The Society's Annual Conference at Harrogate was attended by the public health inspector specialising in air pollution control.



TABLE NO. 11

SMOKE CONTROL ORDER NO.	HOUSES	CLASSES OF BUILDINGS			TOTAL	AREA IN ACRES
		COMMERCIAL	INDUSTRIAL	OTHER		
1	974	20	8	2	1,004	422
2	2,356	26	nil	7	2,389	295
3	499	43	14	5	561	178
4	733	4	5	4	746	211
5	606	6	nil	2	614	248
6	678	5	nil	9	692	300
7	814	7	1	1	823	220
8	1,036	20	5	1	1,062	148
9	1,128	62	28	8	1,226	275
10	1,391	37	4	10	1,442	200
11	1,394	34	8	12	1,448	262
12	1,717	33	nil	9	1,759	194
GRAND TOTAL	13,326	297	73	70	13,766	2,953

## SECTION E

## OFFICES AND SHOPS

## Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

This Act, which has been in operation since August 1964, makes provision for securing the safety, health and welfare of persons employed to work in offices, shops and certain railway premises.

Enforcement of the provisions of the Act is divided among a number of authorities. In most premises covered by the Act its general requirements are enforced by Local Authorities. H.M. Inspectors of Factories are responsible for enforcing the general provisions of the Act in premises occupied by Local Authorities, in railway premises, fuel storage depots on railway land and offices in factories. They are also responsible for inspecting premises owned or occupied by the Crown. H.M. Inspectors of Mines and Quarries are responsible for offices, shops and fuel storage premises at mines and quarries. The fire provisions of the Act are, for the most part, enforced by fire authorities but, in certain premises, enforcement of

some or all of the fire provisions is the responsibility of H.M. Inspectors of Factories or H.M. Inspectors of Mines and Quarries.

Some premises are not covered by the Act; mainly where

- (1) only self-employed people work,
- (2) the only employees are immediate relatives of the employer, or
- (3) the weekly sum of hours worked by all the employees together does not normally exceed 21.

Section 60 of the Act requires local and fire authorities to submit annual reports on their work under the Act to the Minister, and coded information is sent quarterly to the Ministry on reported accidents to provide national statistics of accidents in premises covered by the Act.

#### **Notification of Employment of Persons**

Section 49 of the Act requires employees to notify the enforcing authorities of the employment of persons in premises covered by the Act, on prescribed form OSR.1. The duplicate section of this form is sent by the Borough Council to the Fire Authority who are responsible for enforcing the fire provisions of the Act.

A number of employers are still unaware of this requirement, but any default is corrected following general inspection of premises. Table No. 12 indicates the number of premises registered by class, and Table No. 13 shows the distribution of employees within these premises.

#### **Enforcement of the Act**

The following statutory instruments have been made by the Minister, and define in detail certain general requirements of the Act.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963  
(Commencement No. 1) Order, 1964  
(Commencement No. 2) Order, 1964

The Notification of Employment of Persons Order, 1964

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Forms Order, 1964

The Washing Facilities Regulations, 1964

The Sanitary Conveniences Regulations, 1964



The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises First Aid Order, 1964

The Prescribed Dangerous Machines Order, 1964

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Annual Reports  
Order, 1967

The Information for Employees Regulations, 1965

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963  
(Exemption No. 7) Order, 1968

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises (Hoists and Lifts)  
Regulations, 1968.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises (Hoists and Lifts)  
Reports Order, 1968

At the time of drafting sixty-one circulars have been issued to the Local Authority containing guidance and information on the administration and enforcement of the Act. Some circulars supplement, others revoke previous information, as further experience is gained on the working of the Act.

The Minister is empowered to make further Regulations under the Act, and, as previously reported, it was hoped that the important subject of lighting (Section 8) would be strengthened by such Regulations. This has not been the case, instead an advisory booklet has been issued giving general guidance on lighting, including a table of suggested minimum values of lighting for different parts of premises covered by the Act. The booklet is titled 'Lighting in Offices Shops and Railway Premises', new series No. 39.

Enforcement of the Act has, in the main, continued by advice and warning but it was found necessary to institute proceedings in one case during the year where protracted informal action was not successful in securing compliance with the Legislation. The premises concerned were operated as a self-service store, there were sixteen charges including eleven under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, four under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and one under the Shops Act, 1950. Pleas of guilty were entered in respect of each charge. The case was heard at Burnham Magistrates' Court and total fines of £121. 0. 0d. were imposed, plus an advocate's fee of 20 guineas.

The offences under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 were as follows:-

- (1) Section 50 (4) Failure to keep posted an Abstract - fine £5.
- (2) Section 6 (4) Failure to provide thermometer - fine £5.

- (3) Section 7 (1) Failure to make effective and suitable provision for the ventilation of every room at the said premises in which persons were employed to work - fine £10.
- (4) Section 9 (2) Failure to keep clean and properly maintain the sanitary convenience - fine £15.
- (5) Section 4 (1) Failure to keep in a clean state the room used as the office - fine £5.
- (6) Section 4 (2) Did allow dirt to accumulate in that part of the said premises used as an office - fine £5.
- (7) Section 8 (1) Failure to make effective provision for securing in the cheese preparation room in which persons were working, sufficient and suitable lighting whether natural or artificial - fine £5.
- (8) Section 8 (1) Failure to make effective provision for securing in the warehouse in which persons were working sufficient and suitable lighting whether natural or artificial - fine £5.
- (9) Section 6 (1) Failure to make effective provision for securing a reasonable temperature in the shop sales area in which persons were employed to work otherwise than for short periods - fine £10.
- (10) Section 6 (1) As previous information (second occasion) - fine £10.
- (11) Section 6 (1) Failure to make effective provision for securing a reasonable temperature in the cheese preparation room at the said premises in which persons were employed to work otherwise than for short periods - fine £10.

The following paragraphs show the contraventions detected during general inspection of premises, all were confirmed in writing to the person responsible for complying with the Act.

#### *Cleanliness (Section 4)*

Contraventions found 41

The most unsatisfactory conditions continued to be in stockrooms, passages, water closets etc. Insufficient storage space and inattention to routine cleaning and decoration were contributory factors.

#### *Overcrowding (Section 5)*

Contraventions found 3

There were few problems under this section, mostly solved by redeployment of staff.

*Temperature (Section 6)*

Contraventions found 21

Failure to maintain the specified minimum temperature of 16°C (60.8°F) was again a problem related to shop premises.

*Ventilation (Section 7)*

Contraventions found 9

The Act requires that effective and suitable provision shall be made for securing and maintaining, by the circulation of adequate supplies of fresh or artificially purified air, the ventilation of every room comprised in, or constituting, premises to which this Act applies, being a room in which persons are employed to work. Non compliance was more evident in shop premises than offices.

*Lighting (Section 8)*

Contraventions found 6

The Ministry Advisory booklet sets down suggested minimum standards of lighting, but compares each figure with the recommendations in the Illuminating Engineering Society's code for good interior lighting, and this will continue to be used as the standard to be aimed at.

*Sanitary Conveniences (Section 9)*

Contraventions found 33

The Sanitary Conveniences Regulations, 1964 lay down standards for the number of conveniences related to the number of persons employed.

The conveniences must be kept clean, properly maintained, lighted and ventilated, and must be conveniently accessible to employees. Contraventions concerned conditions rather than insufficient numbers.

*Washing Facilities (Section 10)*

Contraventions found 22

The Washing Facilities Regulations, 1964, detail the type and number of facilities required in relation to the number of persons employed.

A supply of clean, running hot and cold water or clean running warm water, soap, clean towels or other suitable means of cleaning and drying must be provided. The place where the facilities are provided must have effective lighting, be kept clean and orderly, and all apparatus must be kept clean and properly maintained and be conveniently accessible to employees.

Absence of running hot water and unsuitable conditions were again the main contraventions found.

*Supply of Drinking Water (Section 11)*                      Contraventions found nil

An adequate supply of drinking water and suitable drinking vessels must be provided at places conveniently accessible to employees. In discussions with Architects on the provision of new buildings it is recommended that this facility should be separate from the sanitary accommodation.

*Accommodation for Clothing (Section 12)*                      Contraventions found 4

Accommodation under this heading was generally satisfactory, and in keeping with the size and status of the premises.

*Sitting Facilities and Seats for  
Sedentary Workers (Sections 13 and 14)*                      Contraventions found 3

A sufficient number of seats must be provided for the use of employees who must be permitted to use them when this does not interfere with their work.

Seats of such design, construction and dimensions as are suitable for the workers, and, where necessary, a footrest must be provided for those whose work is of such a kind that most of it can, or must, be done sitting.

*Eating Facilities (Section 15)*                                      Contraventions found nil

This requirement refers to shops only, and then where persons employed eat meals on the premises.

*Floors, Passages and Stairs (Section 16)*                      Contraventions found 27

Defective conditions of floors, floor coverings, stair treads and coverings, absence of or insecure handrails, unguarded trapdoors in the open position, were the main contraventions under this section.

*Dangerous Machinery (Sections 17, 18  
and 19)*    Contraventions found 7

There was a marked reduction in the number of contraventions found under this heading. The need for training and supervision of staff, particularly young people, is always stressed on routine inspections, but employers do seem to be more aware of their responsibilities in this field, and of the possible serious consequences of default.

*Prohibition of Heavy Work (Section 23)*                      Contraventions found nil

The Act states that no person shall, in the course of his work in premises to which the Act applies, be required to lift, carry or move a load so heavy as to be likely to cause injury to him, and



it applies also to contractor's men or to delivery men who may have to work on the premises.

Obviously the term heavy means different things to different people, and although no contraventions were detected, this subject is discussed on general inspection where appropriate.

#### *First Aid (Section 24)*

Contraventions found 34

Inadequate first aid provision usually related to the absence of a first aid kit or understocked boxes. Details of minimum requirements were given in each case, with a recommendation that a responsible staff member should have care of the first aid materials, and make a regular check of the contents.

#### *Information for Employees (Section 50)*

Contraventions found 42

The Information for Employees Regulations, 1965, prescribe an abstract of the Act and Regulations made thereunder, and require employers to inform employees of the effect of the Act and Regulations by keeping copies of the abstract posted in the premises, or by giving each employee an explanatory booklet.

#### *Accidents*

Section 48 of the Act requires occupiers of premises which are subject to the Act to report any accident which causes the death of an employee or disables an employee from doing his normal work for more than three days.

Accidents must be reported on a prescribed form (OSR.2) and statistical information from these forms is required by the Ministry each quarter. Tables 14 and 15 show details of reported accidents, under workplace and primary cause, subdivided according to age and sex.

Two cases were found where employers had failed to notify reportable accidents through misunderstanding.

Once again I am pleased to record that no fatal accidents were reported during the year.

#### *Fire Provisions*

In premises which are subject to general inspection by the Local Authority the fire provisions of the Act are enforced by the Fire Authority. A regular contact is maintained with the Fire Officer, and from time to time joint inspection of premises is carried out. Any adverse observations concerning fire precautions made by employees during routine general inspection of premises are referred in writing to the Fire Officer for his attention.

TABLE NO. 12

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number Registered</i>
Offices	300
Retail Shops	561
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	25
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	68
Fuel Storage Depots	1
Total number of registered premises at end of year	955
Number of visits to registered premises	712
Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection	404

TABLE NO. 13

<i>Persons employed by Workplace Class of Workplace</i>	<i>Number of Persons</i>
Offices	4,441
Retail Shops	4,002
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	480
Catering establishments open to the public	625
Canteens	69
Fuel Storage Depots	7
Total	9,624
Total Males	4,227
Total Females	5,397

TABLE NO. 14

CLASS OF WORKPLACE	ADULTS (18 and over)		YOUNG PERSONS (Under 18)		TOTAL
	MALES	FEMALES	MALES	FEMALES	
Offices	-	1	-	1	2
Retail Shops	9	15	3	3	30
Wholesale Departments	3	-	-	-	3
Warehouses	-	-	-	-	-
Catering Establishments open to the public	-	4	-	1	5
Canteens	-	1	-	-	1
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	12	21	3	5	41

TABLE NO. 15

PRIMARY CAUSE	ADULTS (18 and over)		YOUNG PERSONS (Under 18)		TOTAL
	MALES	FEMALES	MALES	FEMALES	
Non-power driven machinery or relevant part in motion	-	-	-	-	-
Power-driven machinery or relevant part in motion	2	1	-	-	3
Vehicle in motion not moved by power	-	-	-	-	-
Fire and explosion	-	-	-	-	-
Hand tools	1	1	-	-	2
Falls on or from fixed stairs	-	2	-	1	3
Falls on or from ladders or step ladders	-	-	1	-	1
Falls from one level to another	2	-	-	-	2
Falls on the same level	-	7	-	1	8
Stepping on or striking against object or person	2	3	-	-	5
Handling goods	5	5	1	3	14
Not otherwise specified	-	2	1	-	3
TOTAL	12	21	3	5	41

## **Shops Acts, 1950-65, Young Persons (Employment) Acts, 1938-64**

Provisions as to hours of closing, half-holidays, mealtimes and employment of young persons are dealt with, where necessary, during routine inspections under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, which repealed and re-enacted the safety and welfare provisions of the Shops Act, 1950.

The Shops Act, 1950 controls the employment of young persons who are shop assistants. The Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1938, regulates the hours of employment of persons who are over compulsory school leaving age but under the age of eighteen years employed in certain non-industrial occupations, and the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1964, prohibits the employment of young persons under eighteen years of age between the hours of 10.00 p.m. and 6.00 a.m. at certain premises where intoxicating liquor is sold. It also increases the penalties for breaches of the main Act.

Employers and Shop Managers are, in the main, anxious to comply with the law concerning the employment of young persons, and during the year a number of enquiries on the subject were dealt with, some from parents or friends of young persons employed in shop premises, who generally seem to think that the law is far more stringent than it actually is. Minor contraventions in relation to the exhibition of specified notices have, except in one case, been dealt with informally.

### **Sunday Trading**

In spite of attempts to introduce legislative changes concerning Sunday trading, the position, at the time of drafting this report, remains the same as it has been for many years.

The Government indicated that it would support Private Member's legislation to amend the law on Sunday trading if it followed the lines laid down in the Crathorne Report, which enquired into the Sunday Laws in relation to entertainment, sport and Sunday trading, but that it could not be committed to provide Government legislative time.

It is significant that the only enquiries, or indeed complaints on this subject are from traders, never from members of the public.



## S E C T I O N    F

### · FACTORIES

#### Factories

During 1968 there were 648 factories on the Council's Register of Factories within the Borough. More than half of them are on the Trading Estate, the remainder are situated in various parts of the town.

There are two classes of factories under the Factories Act, 1961, namely mechanical factories that is to say, factories where mechanical power is used and non-mechanical factories. Almost all in Slough are mechanical factories. In these cases the only provisions of the Act enforced by the local authority are those regarding the sufficiency, suitability and maintenance of the sanitary accommodation. All the other requirements of the Act are enforced by Her Majesty's Factory Inspectorate with whom the department's officers co-operate fully.

There are 23 non-mechanical factories within the Borough and in these cases the local authority are responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Factories Act 1961 in respect of cleanliness, overcrowding, temperature, ventilation and sanitary accommodation.

Some 495 inspections were made during the year and where necessary, the appropriate notices were served under the Factories Act 1961 and the Sanitary Accommodation Regulations, 1938. In addition all factories where food is handled or processed and all factory canteens were inspected regularly under the Food, Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

A close liaison is maintained between officers of this department and the Borough Engineer's department. All plans submitted for Planning and Building Regulations approval are examined in order to check on various aspects of interest to the department.

Industrial boiler plants, incinerators and other installations covered by the Clean Air legislation are regularly inspected. Any complaints of a public health and noise nuisance are investigated and the necessary action taken.

The statistical information required annually by the Ministry of Labour is given on Tables 16 and 17. These Tables summarise the work of the District Public Health Inspectors regarding factories.

## Outworkers

Those firms who employ persons working away from factory premises, generally in their homes, are required to notify the local authority twice a year of the names and addresses of these outworkers. These places of work are visited by Public Health Inspectors to ensure that working conditions are satisfactory.

There were 15 such premises within the Borough during 1968 and these, upon inspection were found to be satisfactory.

## Drinking Water

The Council granted one Certificate of Approval in accordance with Section 57 of the Factories Act 1961, in respect of a factory where the drinking water supply is obtained from a deep well.

TABLE NO. 16

PREMISES	NUMBER ON REGISTER	NUMBER OF		OCCUPIERS PROSECUTED
		INSPECTIONS	WRITTEN NOTICES	
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	23	31	2	-
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	618	456	53	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises)	7	8	-	-
TOTAL	648	495	55	-

TABLE NO. 17

PARTICULARS	NUMBER OF CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND				NO. OF CASES IN WHICH PROSECUTIONS WERE INSTITUTED
	FOUND	REMEDIED	REFERRED		
			TO H.M. INSPECTOR	BY H.M. INSPECTOR	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	22	49	1	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	23	50	1	2	-

## SECTION G

## PEST CONTROL, DISINFECTION ETC.

The Borough Council is required to carry out pest infestation control by the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949. A specialist section exists in the Department for this work, with a Pest Control Officer who supervises the work of the section in which there are three manual workers.

Despite the ever increasing variety of chemicals to combat the spread of pests the cost to the country in terms of damage to property, spoilage of food and disease caused by pests amounts to millions of pounds each year.

Pest Control is an essential part of public health administration. The occupiers of both private and commercial premises can help by ensuring that their buildings are designed and constructed so as to prevent the entry of pests and to practise the simple rules of

hygiene, e.g. removal of refuse and the proper disposal of waste food. Any infestations should be reported immediately so that there is no delay in commencing the treatment.

## **Rodent Control**

Probably the most successful animal species living today is the common or brown rat. This animal spreads across Europe largely under its own power, and since then it has been spread over most of the world by its most implacable enemy, man. The rat has taken advantage of man's habit of storing food and wasting food. The rat has adaptability in diet, it eats almost anything. It lives in open country, towns and even in sewers. It has resourcefulness, initiative, intelligence and cunning.

Rats are notable for their remarkable fecundity. Assuming that rats do not breed before four months, the maximum number of offsprings in twelve months could be well over one thousand from a single pair.

The most important factor in controlling the spread of rodents is the removal of their food supply. People are frequently careless in the disposal of waste food. It is vitally important that all food stores both private and commercial, should be constructed so as to prevent entry by rodents.

Advice on rat-proofing buildings is given by the Pest Control Officer.

During 1968 notifications were received in respect of 439 infestations of rats and 158 of mice. The number of visits made in connection with investigation and treatment totalled 5,254.

Details of the work of the rodent operators during the year are given in Table No. 18. All the methods of treating rodent infestations are approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

## **Annual Agreement Scheme**

The treatment of rodents in buildings other than dwelling houses is chargeable to the occupier of the buildings concerned. Since 1949 a scheme of annual agreements has been in operation whereby certain firms are 'serviced' by visits at regular intervals by the rodent operators. For this service an annual payment is made which varies in accordance with the size of the buildings and the nature of the work carried out at the premises concerned.

One hundred and four premises were serviced under the scheme during 1968 from which the total income amounted to £1,366.



## Workable Area Committee

The South Bucks and East Berks Workable Area Committee is covered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and is supported by most local authorities in the area. The Borough Council is represented on this Committee by the Chairman of the appropriate Committee and the Chief Public Health Inspector. Officers and members meet during the year for discussion and exchange of information regarding pest control.

Lectures are given and films are shown by scientific research personnel of the Ministry's Infestation Division on the various aspects of their work.

Rodent operators occasionally attend refresher courses organised by the Ministry so as to keep up to date with new methods of pest control.

## Sewers

One of the commonest habitats for rats is the sewers. The Council's sewers were test-baited and treated during the year and very little evidence of a general infestation by rats was found.

## General

Complaints are sometimes received regarding pests other than rodents, e.g. beetles, wasps, etc. and wherever possible treatments are carried out.

During the year several premises infested by vermin or infected were treated by the manual workers under the supervision of the Pest Control Officer. Also, bedding and other articles were disinfested or disinfected by the use of chemical fumigants or insecticides.

TABLE NO. 18

Rodent Infestation Control (Rodent Operators)							
	PRIVATE DWELLINGS	BUSINESS PREMISES		REFUSE DESTRUCTOR TIPS DUMPS ETC.	PARKS HEDGES DITCHES ETC.	OTHER COUNCIL PROPERTIES SEWERS ETC.	TOTAL
		ANNUAL AGREEMENT SCHEME	SHORT TERM ACTION				
1. Investigations made ...	1,549	1,134	501	43	68	165	3,460
2. Treatments carried out by the Corporation ...	1,463	572	492	21	18	24	2,590
3. Poison Baits laid ...	5,361	946	2,961	101	151	61	9,581
4. Poison Baits taken ...	3,591	275	1,361	51	53	42	5,373
5. No. of visits made ...	2,365	1,736	758	59	82	254	5,254

## SECTION H

### MISCELLANEOUS

#### Noise

Noise affects us all in varying degrees. Complaints of excessive noise are on the increase and often present some difficult problems for public health inspectors to deal with. Under the Noise Abatement Act 1960, the local authority can serve a notice to abate a noise nuisance provided they are satisfied that the noise constitutes a statutory nuisance. In dealing with a complaint of excessive noise a thorough investigation must be made and preferably readings should be taken on a noise level meter.

The majority of complaints of noise arising from an industrial source are due to bad planning. All too often in these days of land shortage, new houses are built in close proximity to an existing heavy industrial factory, or a new factory is built adjacent to dwelling houses which had previously enjoyed a quiet environment. Small wonder that the householders are 'up in arms' about the increase in noise caused by the close proximity of a large industrial factory. However, once these buildings are occupied and a noise problem arises the public health inspector has the unenviable task of attempting to solve the problem.

Frequently the noise level can be reduced by various methods. It is a defence in the case of a noise caused in the course of a trade or business for the defendant to prove that the best practicable means have been used for preventing or counteracting the effect of noise or vibration. The noise levels can sometimes be reduced by sound-proofing the main source of noise.

Nineteen complaints relating to noise were received during 1968 and these were dealt with by informal action.

A total of £7,870 has been paid in grants to owners of houses in the Langley Ward towards the cost of insulation work against aircraft noise. This is paid by the Borough Council acting as agents for British Airports Authority from whom reimbursement plus an agency fee, is claimed. Since the inception of the scheme some 107 applications have been approved, the bulk of them during 1968, whereas none were received during the first twelve months of the scheme's life. Three applications were refused on the grounds that the present owners could not establish their title to the property on 1st January 1966, the operative date to qualify for a grant.

An amendment to the scheme was introduced in December 1968 which had the effect of extending its life by two years, so that applications can now be accepted up to 31st December, 1972, and works can be completed up to 31st December, 1974. No grant will be payable for work completed after this date. The technical

specification was reduced so that the distance between the two sets of glass is varied and the obligation to line the reveals with sound absorbent material applies to two reveals instead of three. The effect of these amendments was slight; jobs are still being completed satisfactorily to the original specification. Not so with the amendment which increased the grant from one half to three-fifths the cost of the works, subject to a limit of £150 instead of £100 as formerly. Almost overnight the cost of works shot up from just over £200 to £250, and thereby the applicants qualified for the new maximum.

Time spent administering the scheme in Slough has been increased not only by the number of applications but also by the need to pay several visits where one would normally have sufficed.

In the earlier days it was found that jobs were completed where the space between the two windows was a fraction of an inch below the specified 7". but this cause for rejection has now disappeared. Instead it is found that completed work has to be rejected for minor reasons such as failure to seal gaps, failure to line the reveals properly with acoustic material, or other similar trifling matters which could have been done by the contractor easily if only sufficient care had been taken. This is in addition to instances where the customer has also had cause for complaint such as shoddy workmanship and where the contractor has had to return several times to remedy defects.

It came to my attention that one particular firm was canvassing the area and giving householders the impression that it was working in conjunction with British Airports Authority and the local authority. I took this up with the firm concerned and no further instances have been reported. In fact, it is stressed in the explanatory literature sent to prospective applicants that the firms listed as suppliers or fixers of double glazing units are in no way 'approved' but that they have indicated their willingness to carry out the work.

## Water Supply

During the year 1968 there were 78 visits made in connection with water supply and swimming baths, and the following samples were procured:-

Slough Lido	...	...	...	...	26
Slough Community Centre	...	...	...	...	32
County Schools	...	...	...	...	17
Private Schools	...	...	...	...	2

The results of these samples proved to be satisfactory.



## **Hairdressers**

The number of premises registered for the carrying on of the business of hairdresser and/or barber under Section 82 of the Buckinghamshire County Council Act, 1958 during the year was 79.

Hairdressers' premises were subjected to routine inspections by the district public health inspectors during the year, for the purpose of securing cleanliness and compliance with the byelaws in respect of premises, instruments, equipment and personal cleanliness of employees.

## **Offensive Trades**

There are 2 rag and bone dealers and 1 fat melter registered in the Borough. These are the only offensive trades, scheduled under the Public Health Act, 1936, now operating. In 1968 the necessary consent was granted in each case and no difficulties arose in the operation of the premises concerned.

## **House Drainage**

During 1968 the District Inspectors made 315 visits for the investigation, testing and supervision of remedial works in respect of house drainage. One hundred and eighteen complaints were received concerning choked or defective drainage. Sanitary improvements were effected at 63 premises.

There are comparatively few premises served by cesspools within the Borough. Progress in the abolition of cesspools has been maintained mainly due to the construction of new housing and the availability of sewerage. Unless cesspools are found to be in a defective condition, their abolition can only be accomplished by persuasion.

## **Places of Entertainment**

Routine inspections were made by the district inspectors to places of entertainment, including cinemas, bingo halls, and a bowling alley. During the year these premises were found to be satisfactory.



# COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

January to May 1968

*Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR I.S.M. REA

*Vice-Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR MRS. J. MACFARLANE

ALDERMAN MRS. M.J. MORGAN

ALDERMAN A.W.J. PUSEY

ALDERMAN J. RIGBY

ALDERMAN F.S.G. ROOM

ALDERMAN W.C. WEST

COUNCILLOR MRS. T.P. BAYNHAM

COUNCILLOR MR. G. BROOKER

COUNCILLOR N.M. ESCHLE

COUNCILLOR R.F. EVERETT

COUNCILLOR H.J. NEWMAN

COUNCILLOR P.T. SMART

COUNCILLOR J. WALKER

COUNCILLOR L.S. WILLIS

COUNCILLOR MRS. M.B. DENMAN

## *County Council*

MR. J.S. BISHOP

MRS. M. BRINING

MRS. S.M. DENNIS

MRS. R. TAYLOR

## *Co-opted Members*

CANON N. BURDITT

MR. A. TRAVIS

MR. S.G. PUTNAM

MR. F.W. SPOLTON

MR. K. WRIGHT

May to December 1968

*Chairman:*

COUNCILLOR I.S.M. REA

*Vice-Chairman:*

ALDERMAN W.C. WEST

ALDERMAN MRS. M.J. MORGAN

ALDERMAN A.W.J. PUSEY

ALDERMAN J. RIGBY

ALDERMAN F.S.G. ROOM

COUNCILLOR MRS. T.P. BAYNHAM

COUNCILLOR MISS W.M. BRIEN

COUNCILLOR G. BROOKER

COUNCILLOR MRS. N.B. DENMAN

COUNCILLOR R.F. EVERETT

COUNCILLOR N.M. ESCHLE

COUNCILLOR D.J.P. NEAVE

COUNCILLOR P.T. SMART

COUNCILLOR J.T. TRACEY

COUNCILLOR J. WALKER

*County Council.*

MR. J. S. BISHOP  
MRS. S. M. DENNIS

MRS. M. BRINING  
MR. R. TAYLOR

*Co-opted Members*

MR. J. McMAHON  
MR. F. W. SPOLTON  
REV. CANON E. PERKINS

MR. R. E. ESSERY  
MR. C. E. HUSSEY

*Borough Education Officer*

C. S. SMYTH, B. A.

*Staff Engaged in Medical Inspections during 1968*

Divisional School Medical  
Officer:

MACDONALD A. CHARRETT, M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

School Medical Officers:

AUDREY MYANT, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.P.,  
D.P.H.

BARBARA V. GIBSON, M.B., B.S.,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (res. 19.3.68)

JEAN BARKER, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

J. CAROL BUTCHER, M.B., Ch.B.,  
(app. 17.6.68)

ROBERTA EVANS, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B.  
(app. 4.3.68)

*Ophthalmic Surgeon*

M. T. C. MOWER, M.B., B.Chir., M.M.S.A., (app. 4.3.68)

*Child Guidance Clinic and Crisis Consultation Service*

*Psychiatrist*

MILDRED I. POTT, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H., D.P.M.  
(res. 31.12.68)

(Part-time services made available by arrangement with the  
North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board)

ELIZABETH F. BROWN, B.M., B.Ch., D.P.M.

*Educational Psychologists*

MRS. E. THORNE (re-app. Sept. 1968)

MR. J. C. QUICK (app. 24.8.68)



MRS. I. WELLIN

## School Dental Surgeons

## Speech Therapists

## Remedial Gymnast

### Health Visiting Staff

*Health Visitors - 24*

78

# ANNUAL REPORT

## OF

### THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE, 1968

This is the sixth report of the work of the school health service since the Borough Council began to act in May 1962, as an Excepted District under the Education Act, 1944.

#### *Number of Children on School Roll*

*January 1968*

Nursery Schools	....	...	...	...	500
Primary Schools - Infant and Junior					8,541
Secondary Schools - Modern	...	...			4,745
- Technical	...				2,947 )
					)
- Grammar and High					)
Special Day School	...	...	...		169
					<hr/>
					16,892
					<hr/>

The following tables indicate the work carried out by the School Health Service.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING  
MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS - 1968

TABLE NO. 1

PUPILS REQUIRING TREATMENT

*(excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin)*

<i>Age Groups Inspected (by Year of Birth) (1)</i>	<i>No. of Pupils Inspected (2)</i>	<i>For Defective Vision (excluding Squint) (3)</i>	<i>For any other Condition as Recorded in Table No. 2 (4)</i>	<i>Total Individual Pupils (5)</i>
1964 and later	152	1	13	11
1963	721	9	97	89
1962	541	7	70	60
1961	127	6	19	15
1960	64	3	8	8
1959	23	2	3	5
1958	74	4	10	13
1957	1,112	49	122	129
1956	127	7	9	12
1955	31	2	4	5
1954	45	14	32	39
1953 & earlier	1,320	31	50	73
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,337</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>459</b>

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

Notes: All cases of infestation, however slight, are included in this table

	1967	1968
(a) Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorised persons ... ..	26,103	21,835
(b) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested ... ..	116	65

## OTHER MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

A special medical inspection is one carried out at the special request of a parent, doctor, nurse, teacher or other persons. A re-inspection is one arising out of one of the periodic medical inspections or from a special inspection.

	1967	1968
Number of Special Inspections	191	1,161
Number of Re-Inspections	1,733	1,579
TOTAL	<u>1,924</u>	<u>2,740</u>



TABLE NO. 2

**DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTIONS  
PERIODIC INSPECTIONS**

This table includes individual pupils requiring treatment (T) or observation (O) even though many are already under treatment or observation as a result of previous medical examinations.

DEFECT CODE NO.	DEFECT OR DISEASE	P E R I O D I C   I N S P E C T I O N S							
		ENTRANTS		LEAVERS		OTHERS		TOTAL	
		(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)	(T)	(O)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
4.	Skin	5	20	6	6	6	12	17	38
5.	Eyes -								
	(a) Vision	27	35	45	51	62	77	134	163
	(b) Squint	12	28	2	1	7	7	21	36
	(c) Other	-	3	1	2	-	2	1	7
6.	Ears								
	(a) Hearing	76	60	34	9	37	19	147	88
	(b) Otitis Media	8	24	-	1	6	4	14	29
	(c) Other	1	2	-	-	1	-	2	2
7.	Nose and Throat	14	51	1	4	10	11	25	66
8.	Speech	36	34	3	1	5	6	44	41
9.	Lymphatic Glands	-	11	-	1	2	4	2	16
10.	Heart	5	34	-	5	2	9	7	48
11.	Lungs	7	21	1	6	6	17	14	44
12.	Development -								
	(a) Hernia	-	4	-	1	-	2	-	7
	(b) Other	4	46	5	8	17	31	26	85
13.	Orthopaedic -								
	(a) Posture	1	4	10	6	6	9	17	19
	(b) Feet	37	39	15	10	27	20	79	69
	(c) Other	11	21	5	8	10	9	26	38
14.	Nervous System -								
	(a) Epilepsy	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	2
	(b) Other	2	11	-	5	2	3	4	19
15.	Psychological -								
	(a) Development	7	31	1	5	12	19	20	55
	(b) Stability	2	23	4	9	2	14	8	46
16.	Abdomen	-	3	-	1	-	1	-	5
17.	Other -								
	Diabetic	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	Enuresis	-	-	-	-	1	2	-	2
	C.Guidance	1	2	-	2	-	-	1	4
	Overweight	-	1	-	16	1	8	1	25
	Underweight	-	3	1	1	1	2	2	6
	General Cond.	-	9	-	-	-	11	-	20
	Accident	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
	Nephritis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

TABLE NO. 3  
OTHER MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Defect Code No.  (1)	Defect or Disease  (2)	Re-examinations and Special Inspections	
		Pupils requiring Treatment (3)	Pupils requiring Observation (4)
4.	Skin	6	31
5.	Eyes -		
	(a) Vision	66	74
	(b) Squint	8	21
	(c) Other	2	3
6.	Ears -		
	(a) Hearing	179	135
	(b) Otitis Media	16	18
	(c) Other	2	6
7.	Nose and Throat	17	68
8.	Speech	61	61
9.	Lymphatic Glands	-	11
10.	Heart	9	30
11.	Lungs	12	50
12.	Development -		
	(a) Hernia	4	16
	(b) Other	14	39
13.	Orthopaedic -		
	(a) Posture	20	27
	(b) Feet	50	101
	(c) Other	10	26
14.	Nervous System -		
	(a) Epilepsy	2	9
	(b) Other	7	24
15.	Psychological -		
	(a) Development	43	18
	(b) Stability	21	59
16.	Abdomen	-	6
17.	Other -		
	(a) Underweight	1	11
	(b) Overweight	2	17
	(c) Anaemia	-	1
	(d) Haemophilia	-	1
	(e) Diabetes	-	1
	(f) General Cond.	1	7
	(g) Unsatisfactory	1	-

## REPORT OF THE REMEDIAL GYMNAST

	1966	1967	1968
Number of schools with pupils in need of treatment	34	39	42
Total number of new cases referred	167	112	170
Total number who received treatment	384	407	438
Number of children who have been discharged from treatment, or who have left school or district	126	117	141

### Summary of Cases Treated

(a) For foot and knee defects	248	281	300
(b) For postural defects	74	74	70
(c) For asthma and other chest conditions	53	47	56
(d) For neurological and other conditions	9	5	12

As the above figures show there has been a general increase on the figures presented last year. There were thirty one extra cases referred and visits had to be made to three additional schools. This does not appear great, but the complexities of time-table organisation to arrange suitable treatment has made it ever more difficult to balance the time requirements in each school. In order to do this the time spent in Secondary schools has had to be reduced by providing classes fortnightly or monthly instead of each week.

The arrival of two Spina Bifida children requiring treatment in a normal infant school has presented a different, though very interesting, problem. The Borough Education Officer has kindly agreed to the purchase of portable parallel bars for regular walking training in school. Co-operation from the school's Headmaster has been most encouraging and it is to be hoped that a satisfactory programme can be evolved for the two children within the normal school curriculum.

It has been possible to include treatment for some children referred by Specialists at local hospitals so avoiding loss of school attendance.

Help from school matrons and ancillary helpers and general co-operation from School Heads and teachers has been invaluable,

particularly in Secondary schools where time-table arrangements have had to be adapted.

# SPEECH THERAPY

	1966	1967	1968
Number on waiting list 31st December	-	-	-
Number being treated on 31st December	143	178	244
Cases discharged	56	53	73
Number of new cases	69	91	128
Total attendances	3,437	3,848	4,408

	1966	1967	1968
Child with no language, or with delayed language development	21	23	38
Children with articulation defects due to structural abnormality, emotional disturbance, low mental ability, hearing loss etc.	94	152	184
Stammerers	19	29	32
Children with neurological involvement	7	5	9
Children with voice disorders	-	-	2

Clinics have been held in schools, Health Centres and Special Schools. There has been a considerable increase in the number of referrals and this has lead to a far greater case load. Any further increase would probably result in a waiting list.

Although the total attendances for the year have risen, the keeping of holiday appointments is very poor. All three therapists attended the course held by the Spastic's Society at Wallingford and also the College of Speech Therapist's Annual Refresher Course held this year at Reading University.

Students from London Training Schools have continued to attend clinics for practical experience.



## EYE CLINICS

Eye clinics which are held at Burlington Road Health Clinic and shared with the Eton Division continued to deal with pupils found at routine or other medical inspections to have or to be suspected of, defective vision or other eye defects.

The North-West Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board supplies the ophthalmic surgeon and the optician, while the local education authority provides the premises and the necessary administrative arrangements.

The number of pupils seen during the year was as follows:-

For errors of refraction, including squint	460
For other defects	5
Spectacles were prescribed for	140 pupils

## PARTIALLY HEARING UNIT

Mr. E.W. Heard, teacher in charge, also visited other schools during the year. He reports as follows:-

107 children in the Slough Division were audiometrically and educationally assessed by me during 1968, most of whom were referred for further investigation after sweep tests by Health Visitors.

Of this number:

5 were referred to me for investigation by the Consultant ENT Surgeon, and

5 were routine checks,

47 were recommended for further investigation by an Otologist, 8 of whom have since been prescribed hearing aids.

41 are still under observation.

## Hearing Aids

49 children wear hearing aids and are distributed thus:

Infants	-	3 boys	1 girl
Juniors	-	10 boys	7 girls
Secondary	-	9 boys	15 girls
Special Schools	-	2 boys	2 girls

## CENTRE FOR CEREBRAL-PALSIED CHILDREN

At the end of 1968 there were 20 children on the register. Of these, 12 attended for the whole day, one attended for three mornings a week and 7 attended as out-patients. Two children were transferred to other schools during the year, one going to a residential school run by the Spastic Society and one to a Local Education Authority Residential School. Three of the children came from Berkshire and one from Surrey.

Apart from the physical handicaps which naturally attend any child with cerebral palsy additional problems often present themselves. It would not be possible to detail all these without going through the case histories of each child but the mention of problems due to hearing loss, to abnormalities of speech and language development to poor sight in addition to occasional severe mental retardation gives an idea of the difficulties of providing for the care of children under the umbrella of 'cerebral palsy'.

No centre of the type which exists at Slough can function in isolation and great help is always forthcoming from Nursery and Primary Schools in the Area who are willing to take handicapped children able to benefit from mixing with normal children. I would like to record my appreciation for the help and understanding received whenever an appeal is made.

Dr. Jack Rubie continued his paediatric consultant sessions at monthly intervals during the year; the centre virtually takes the place of out-patient clinics for cerebral-palsied children in the area and the unhurried atmosphere of the centre is much appreciated by children and parents who attend; from these clinics referral to other consultants is made and opinions from orthopaedic surgeons, otologists and ophthalmologists were obtained during the year.

The staff of the Centre remained very static during the year but I am sorry to have to report that Mr. Griffiths, the Headmaster who opened the unit some years ago left to take up the headship of a residential school in the north of England. To him and to all the other staff I wish to record my appreciation for the way in which they have helped the children and to the devotion which they have showed. Mention should also be made of the help received from the pupils of the Woodside County Secondary School who come to the Centre for one half day each week as part of their Civics and Citizenship Course.

This report is inevitably about the centre and the part it plays in the development of these unfortunate children. It would however, be wrong of me to finish these remarks without stressing the contribution that parents have to play if children are to be able to develop to the limit of their capacity. The Centre can only help for a relatively small part of each day - for the remainder of

the time the children depend upon their parents, relatives and friends. Any assistance which the staff can give will cheerfully be given and all parents are encouraged to visit the centre as often as possible so that they may see, learn and understand the ways in which their children can be helped.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC, SLOUGH

The work of the Child Guidance Clinic during the earlier part of the year continued very much as before but Dr. Pott's impending resignation at the end of December made it necessary to make arrangements for a period during which only one session per week from Dr. Elizabeth Brown would be available.

The number of children on the waiting list was kept low mainly by Dr. Pott's system of group discussion before new cases were accepted but the number of cases closed during the year was high as it was thought better to make a practice of allowing re-referral or re-request rather than to give the impression that the clinic would follow-up later.

Until a new psychiatrist has been appointed it has been necessary to ask general practitioners to refer only emergencies to the Clinic although, of course, Dr. Elizabeth Brown has continued to provide very valuable help in the extremely limited time at her disposal.

No. of children on the waiting list 1.1.68	-	26
No. of new cases referred to the clinic during the year	-	189
No. of cases closed during the year	-	143
No. of children on the waiting list on 31.12.68	-	30
Total attendances during 1968	-	1,918

DENTAL SERVICE

Treatment for Schoolchildren	1967	1968
No. of children inspected	9,336	12,038
No. of schools inspected	29	35
No. of children requiring treatment	3,274	4,200
No. actually treated	1,173	1,533
No. of attendances (excluding orthodontics)	4,606	4,489
Fillings - Permanent teeth	2,606	2,175
- Temporary teeth	1,468	1,658
Extractions - Permanent teeth	168	276
- Temporary teeth	337	669



Treatment for Pre-school Children and  
Expectant and Nursing Mothers

	1967	1968
Pre-school children treated	135	111
Fillings for pre-school children	169	201
Attendances for pre-school children	208	201
Expectant and nursing mothers treated	48	30
Fillings for mothers	52	30
Attendances for mothers	92	44

There was a big increase in the number of children receiving a dental inspection. This has now reached 70% and it is hoped to increase this in the future. There was also an increase in the number of children treated, though the number of fillings fell slightly with an increase in the number of teeth extracted.

Fewer pre-school children and expectant and nursing mothers were treated during the year. It is hoped that in future much greater efforts will be made to encourage the pre-school child to receive dental treatment from a much earlier age.

During the year Miss Keene, Health Education Organiser has continued her valuable work in Dental Health. Unfortunately for most of the year she did not have the Dental Auxiliary to help her in this work so the programme of Dental Health Education has been much restricted.

As in previous years the annual Dental Inspection of children at the Orchard School who have always lived in Slough was conducted in co-operation with the staff of the Royal Dental Hospital, London. This has shown consistently over the years that children living in Slough with its high fluoride content in the water have only about half the dental decay of children living in low fluoride areas.

Towards the end of the year changes in the water supply for the Slough area have resulted in a dilution of the fluoride content of the water. This will become more pronounced as the demand for water increases and unless steps are taken to increase the fluoride content of the water there will be a marked increase in dental decay over the next five years.

Plans have been made for increasing the dental staff in the Borough and it is hoped to staff all the clinics more adequately next year. An additional dental surgery is being added to the clinic at Burlington Road. An Area Dental Officer and a Dental Auxiliary are being appointed early next year.



Orthodontic Treatment	1966	1967	1968
No. of children in treatment	207	215	262
New patients	76	96	88
Patients carried forward from previous year	145	142	174
Attendances for orthodontic treatment	501	550	697
Orthodontic appliances fitted	42	56	65

The number of children under orthodontic treatment i.e. the correction of dental irregularities, continues to increase. It is expected that as more and more children are dentally inspected at schools each year the demand for orthodontic treatment will increase. This specialist treatment is carried out by Miss A. Blandford, the County Orthodontist.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED  
BY  
SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL



